FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 017 27 January 1986

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

L.A. Parliament Hails Guatemalan Democracy [Cadena de Emisoras Unidas] A 1
Bolivia's Garret Ayllon Proposes Andean Summit [EFE] A 1
Andean Parliament Projects 1986 Activities [Cadena Panamericana] A 2

ARGENTINA

Results of General Strike, Reactions Viewed B 1
TELAM Report B 1
Labor Ministry Communique B 2
CGT Communiques B 2
Opposition's Approval Noted [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 26 Jan] B 4
Caputo Reviews Agenda, Departs for USSR B 5
Vice President Leaves for Azcona Inauguration B 5
PCA Relays PCCH Communique on Armed Struggle B 5

BOLIVIA

Interior Ministry Calls COB Strike Failure C 1
Analysts Say Paz' Actions Weaken Party C 1
Garcia Meza Asks To Assume Defense Against Suit C 1
Briefs: Armed Forces Appointment C 2

BRAZIL

Envoy to Iraq To Probe PLO Arms Transfer D 1
President Sarney Prohibits Budget Increases D 1
Political Forces Align With Quadros, Brizola D 1
Embratel To Represent Uruguay in Intelsat D 2
Construction of Supersonic Planes Studied [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 21 Jan] D 3
Briefs: Air Force Academy Commander; Military Region Commander D 3

CHILE

4 Dead, 24 Missing After Arms Factory Explosion E 1
MDP Leader Plans General Strike in April [Vienna] E 1

COLOMBIA

Betancur Cancels Trip to Honduran Inauguration F 1
Note to Venezuela Protests Boat Incident F 1
35 Killed in Army, M-19 Clashes in Popayan F 1
Terriost Plan Discovered in Bucaramanga F 2
Briefs: New Health Minister; Foreign Investments Drop; Coca Plants Found F 12

PARAGUAY

Interior Ministry Secretary General 'Removed' [EL DIARIO 24 Jan] H 1
Industry Minister Leaves for Honduras, U.S. [PATRIA 25 Jan] H 1
Police Order Mopoco President To Surrender H 1
Extend Arrest Deadline H 2
Situation Turns Violent H 3
National Accord Issues Communique H 4

PERU

Garcia Reaffirms Solidarity With Nicaragua J 1
Garcia Lauds Peace Commission, Raps Terrorists J 1
Commission Members Comment J 2
New Commission Planned J 3

URUGUAY

Congress, President Disagree Over Budget K 1
President Seeks Broad National Agreement K 2
Discusses Modernization Plan K 2
Foreign Minister Leaves For UK, Israel, Egypt K 3

VENEZUELA

Delegation to Azcona Inauguration Announced L 1
Mexican Energy Secretary Arrives on Visit L 1
New Interior Ministry Officials Appointed L 2

MEXICO

Three Libyan Terrorists Plan 'To Enter' U.S. M 1
Energy Minister Remarks on World Oil Crisis M 1
To Meet Venezuelan Counterpart M 1
Envoy Says Foreign Policy Must Not Change M 2
Cuba Not 'Source of Conflict' M 2

PANAMA

U.S. Congressmen, Delvalle Discuss Canal Issues [MATUTINO 25 Jan] N 1
Vice President Heads Delegation to Honduras [LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 25 Jan] N 2
PRD Rejects Military Role in Central America N 2
Economic Commission Formed N 3
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 24 Jan]

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Sandinist Army Border Attacks Protested P 1

EL SALVADOR

Reaction to Duarte Austerity Measures Unfavorable P 1
PCN: U.S., IMF Forced Measures P 1
Rejected by Opposition Deputies P 1
[DIARIO LATINO 24 Jan]
Opposed by Businessmen P 2

GUATEMALA

Cerezo To Discuss C. American Conflict With Bush P 3
U.S. Reportedly To Grant Military, Economic Aid P 4
[PRENSA LIBRE 23 Jan]
Future Aid Loss Possible P 4
Government Holds First Cabinet Meeting P 5
Nicaraguan Contra Leader Meets With Cerezo P 5
[PRENSA LIBRE 22 Jan]
Congress Elects 4 Supreme Court Magistrates P 6
Rebel Leader Declares Opposition to Cerezo P 6

HONDURAS

Azcona Announces New Cabinet Ministers P 7
Foreign Delegations Arrive for Azcona Inaugural P 8
Cerezo, Others Welcomed P 8
Duarte, Febres, Others Greeted P 8
Foreign Minister Welcomes Bush P 9
Alleged Salvadoran Border Violations Protested P 9
New National Congress Leadership Elected P 10
Suazo Attends Ceremonies P 10

NICARAGUA

Contras Reportedly Down Sandinist Helicopter P 11
Delegation To Seek Aid From Socialist Countries P 11
'Suspicious' Costa Rican Boat Seized Off Coast P 11
Obando y Bravo Accuses Regime of Persecution P 12
[BARRICADA 22 Jan]
Cardinal Siding With U.S. P 12
'Opposition' Criticizes Cardinal P 13
Government Issues Communique P 14
Cardinal Complains to OAS P 15
OAS Envoy Replies P 15
[EL NUEVO DIARIO 24 Jan]
U.S. Catholic Order Linked With Cardinal, CIA P 17
[BARRICADA 23 Jan]
Church Denies Reported Role in 'Scorpion' Plot P 17
Priest Interrogated P 18

CUBA

Malmierca, Zimbabwe's Mangwende Hold Talks Q 1
Malmierca Meets With Banana Q 1
Delegation Attends Sierra Leone Inauguration Q 1

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Sugar Mill Workers Begin Strike To Protest Death R 1
Further Report R 1
Tear Gas Used at Funeral R 1
Police, Students Clash R 2
Workers Demand Compensation R 2
Presidency Secretary de Camps Resigns R 3
Speculation Surrounds Decision R 3
PRD Presidential Hopefuls Reach Agreements R 4

CARIBBEAN

Caricom Secretary General Reviews Performance S 1

BAHAMAS

Parliament Member Cleared of Bribery Charges S 2

GRENADA

Reports of Funds for Former Detainees Denied S 2
Labor Minister on Humphrey's Extradition Denial S 3
Government Plans To Operate Model Farms S 3
OAS Official To Head Project S 4

HAITI

Duvalier Dissolves Police, Shuffles Officers S 5
Government Arrests Alleged Killers of Students S 5

TRINIDAD-TOBAGO

Government Establishes Relations With North Korea S 5

L.A. PARLIAMENT HAILS GUATEMALAN DEMOCRACY

PA240337 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] This is a Latin American Parliament statement regarding Guatemala's return to democracy.

Whereas:

1. Guatemala has resumed its democratic and institutional life through free elections after a long and painful period of dictatorships and violence;

2. Upon resuming its activities, the Guatemalan Congress has determined to again join the Latin American Parliament, of which this country was one of the founding national parliaments;

3. Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo has proposed the creation of a Central American parliament whose regional purposes agree with those of the Latin American Parliament;

The Latin American Parliament agrees to:

1. Hail Guatemala, whose people have crowned a long and heroic struggle for the return to democracy;

2. Express satisfaction for the Guatemalan Congress' return to the Latin American Parliament;

3. Express its identification with Cerezo's initiative and efforts to create a Central American parliament within the Latin American Parliament.

Board of directors of the Latin American Parliament

17 January 1986

[Signed] Luis Agustin Leon, President; Andres Tausen Escurra, Secretary General

BOLIVIA'S GARRET AYLLON PROPOSES ANDEAN SUMMIT

PY240003 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2333 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] La Paz, 22 Jan (EFE) -- Bolivian Vice President Julio Garret Ayllon, president of the Andean Parliament, today proposed holding a meeting of the Bolivian, Colombian, Ecuadoran, Peruvian, and Venezuelan heads of state.

The meeting will reportedly be in preparation for the "summit" of Latin American presidents scheduled for June in Panama. The issues to be discussed will be related to the foreign debt of the countries represented, the Central American problem, and drug trafficking, Garret said.

He made this proposal in a speech delivered today after being informed by Colombian Ambassador Alfredo Urdinola that Bogota has been confirmed as the headquarters for the Andean Parliament.

ANDEAN PARLIAMENT PROJECTS 1986 ACTIVITIES

PY240006 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1139 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] An official delegate to the Andean Parliament has reported to Bolivian Vice President Garret Ayllon during a special ceremony that the official seat of the Andean Parliament will be Bogota, Colombia. In statements to Radio Panamericana, Deputy Hedin Cespedes reports on the activities of the Andean Parliament, whose president is Garret Ayllon.

[Begin recording] We had the opportunity to participate, as representatives of Bolivia, in the meeting of the directive Board of the Latin American Parliament [as heard], held from 16 to 18 January this year. The meeting mainly studied and planned the activities to be undertaken by the Latin American Parliament in 1986. In the first place, a special Latin American Parliament meeting was approved for the first week of April to deal with the Central American problem. The tensions and violence in the Central American region have been one of the subjects of concern to the Latin American Parliament, and for this reason, the meeting will be held in Guatemala in order to enable the Latin American countries, through their parliaments, to cooperate with the Contadora Group in its task of bringing about the pacification of the region, leaving aside the hegemonical interests now in play there. [end recording]

Deputy Cespedes gives more details of the activities planned by the Andean Parliament this year. It has been planned that a number of meetings, some of which are important, will take place in Bolivia.

[Begin recording] The Latin American Parliament [as heard] has five permanent commissions: the Economic Commission, the Political Commission, the Human Rights Commission, the Education Commission, and the Statutes Commission. I am happy to be able to report that Bolivia hosts the Economic Commission, which will hold its meeting in Santa Cruz in June. During that meeting, the economic situation of the Latin American countries will be studied, particularly their foreign debt and the way to pay it.

The meeting of the permanent Human Rights Commission will be held in Quito, and at the same time, another meeting will be held on drug trafficking, the scourge of several Latin American countries, which their parliaments must approach in some way or other, because drug trafficking is causing a distortion of values in Bolivian society and in Latin American society. [end recording]

As you have heard, the Andean Parliament intends to carry out quite a broad program this year.

RESULTS OF GENERAL STRIKE, REACTIONS VIEWED

TELAM Report

PY250128 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 24 Jan (TELAM) -- The national general strike that the General Labor Confederation [CGT] ordered for today was widely obeyed. Absenteeism was estimated by the CGT at 97.4 percent, since most of the transport unions obeyed the strike call. For the CGT the general strike has been what we forecast: A popular referendum against the subordination of our economy to the demands of the IMF and the sacrifice that is imposed on the people in order to pay the interest of the alleged foreign debt to international profiteers.

As on other occasions, the strike had its major effect in the industrial sectors, although the inactivity also affected important parts of the commercial and services sectors. There has been total calm throughout the country and there were absolutely no incidents. The transport sector in this capital was practically paralyzed, although the subway system was working with trains running every 5 to 8 minutes until 1800 [2100 GMT], when the service was interrupted due to the lack of passengers.

Many banks, cinemas and to a lesser degree bars and restaurants remained open in the downtown area but there were not many customers. The downtown area shops, with the exception of the restaurants, closed their doors, as did the Rio, Sudameris, Alas, Avellaneda, and Cabildo banks as well as the Banco do Brasil, while the rest of the banking sector opened as usual. Approximately 52 percent of the local townhall employees turned up to work, while the capital's hospitals and health centers carried out their normal activities and the services and emergency actions of other sectors of the municipalities were also carried out.

Aerolineas Argentinas has reported that it carried out all its rescheduled internal flights due to the fact that 50 percent of its personnel turned up to work. Five of the company's international flights arrived at Ezeiza Airport as scheduled although all flights leaving the country had to be cancelled. Austral Airlines converted 80 percent of the emergency domestic flights that it had rescheduled.

The Motor Transport Workers Union (UTA) has reported that all obeyed the strike call in the interior of the country, with the exception of Neuquen and Rio Negro, where absenteeism reached 80 percent. According to the UTA, absenteeism in the federal capital reached approximately 85 percent, while 5 percent of the units circulated with their owners at the wheels. Activities were normal at the horserace track Hipodromo Argentino, where the usual Friday races were held.

The stoppage was total in the city of Cordoba with total absenteeism in the industrial sector, although many shops on the city's outskirts opened their doors. The scene was similar in most of the province's major cities with the transport sector being the most inactive. Some incidents occurred early this morning and at mid-morning, when pickets of strikers toured several neighborhoods and demanded that the owners of bars and service stations close their doors. In some cases the injured persons had to be taken to the hospital. Adolfo Cortez, deputy secretary of the Unified CGT, told TELAM that there were picketers and that some minor incidents could have taken place.

Labor Ministry Communique

PY250226 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2335 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Jan (NA) -- Tonight, the Labor Ministry reported that the stoppage "was observed throughout the country with varying degrees of intensity, depending on the sector of activity," and noted that the right to strike was respected just as was the right to work. It also observed that "the worker lost 1 day's salary" and "the country lost 1 day of production." The official communique says that "as far as we know no country in the world has overcome a crisis by resorting to stoppages or confrontations. On the contrary, the nations that have achieved social stability are today the ones with higher levels of employment and salaries, as well as with stronger political institutions." The communique was released by Government House shortly before 2030 after an hour-long meeting held by Labor Minister Hugo Barrionuevo and Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli. The text of the communique reads as follows:

"The stoppage was observed throughout the country with different degrees of intensity, depending on the sector of activity. It must, therefore, be pointed out that, thanks to the existence of a state of law and democratic institutions, the exercise of the right to strike has been guaranteed, as has the exercise of the right to work. Once more we should think whether the strike has benefited the workers or produced a substantial change for the better in the situation of the workers.

"We understand that none of that has happened. On the contrary, the worker has lost 1 day's salary and the country has lost 1 day's production and services. Argentina has again occupied the international headlines with the stoppage of activities, just when the country needs to grow, to invest, and to regain consideration from the international community. As far as we know, no country in the world has overcome a crisis by resorting to stoppages or confrontations. On the contrary, the nations that have achieved social stability are the ones that today have the higher levels of employment and salaries, as well as the stronger political institutions.

"The stoppage has given us an opportunity to think about some facts: Many workers have adopted the measure, but many others have been forced not to report to their places of work for lack of transportation, and yet others did not report to work because they are on vacation. Thus, this new general strike, the fourth since 10 December 1983, should call the people to reflection and responsibility. As the government has stated on several occasions, the social sectors in the democratic and participatory society have the right and the duty to express dissent and to make demands in a context of social dialogue. But dissent cannot mean to make dialogue subject to the uncompromising position of one sector alone, because this attitude will not help find solutions to the problems that the entire community is trying to overcome. Without dialogue, without social responsibility, and without specific and reasonable alternate proposals, the country's economic growth will only be hindered, as will the consolidation of democratic coexistence and social peace."

CGT Communiques

PY250241 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0032 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Jan (TELAM) -- The General Labor Confederation (CGT) today issued a communique stating that it has not sought confrontation but national unity while reporting the rates of absenteeism in rural parts of the country and a breakdown by type of trade.

The communiques issued with only 4 hours to go before the strike is due to end show that compliance with the strike was between 85 and 100 percent. The first communique, which is signed by CGT Secretary General Saul Ubaldini, states that the people have responded to the national proposal of the CGT by participating in a peaceful and calm demonstration that has left no doubts about their joint rejection of the socioeconomic policy.

After explaining that this policy places the burden of the foreign debt on the shoulders of the people, the communique goes on to say that today's strike is historical both because of the 97.3 percent rate of compliance by the labor force and because it is an unobjectionable and straightforward display of national will. It adds: We did not advocate confrontation. We called for national unity in the quest for greatness that can only be achieved if all the efforts and sacrifices we have been making can be channeled into a coherent plan for reactivation based, more than anything else, on the confidence in our own strength and the ability of our people to devise on their own, using their intelligence and industry, an honorable future free from ties, servitude, hunger, misery, humiliation and dependence. The communique indicates: On this magnificent occasion we have all fulfilled our duty. Tomorrow will be dawning soon and this day, like others to follow, will show us whether we shall meet on the path toward greatness, forget offenses received, and cooperate for independent growth. The communique also invited the government to forsake spurious commitments and humbly merge with the people in a march that can only end with the attainment of the great Argentina we all dream about, the Argentina we have all sworn to live for, thus proving that it is an enlightened, responsible, and generous government. The communique concludes by stating that through this strike the CGT has defeated alien enemies of our full and free life. Let us choose victory with the people and not with the IMF.

In another communique, the CGT reported the rates of compliance with the strike which, according to it, were collected through permanent contacts with all member organizations and regional branches throughout the country. It added that CGT Secretary General Saul Ubaldini spent the whole day at CGT headquarters at 802 Azopardo Street. The communique stressed that in view of the accident involving a bus in San Juan Province, the CGT executive board ordered a relaxation of the strike by the health, chemical and service-station workers in that province in order to help the injured people.

The list of rates of compliance with the 24-hour strike at regional branches shows that in the Federal Capital and Buenos Aires the rate was 98 percent. In the provinces of Formosa, Jujuy, La Rioja and La Pampa, the rate was 100 percent; it was 99 percent in Catamarca and Tierra del Fuego; 98 in the Federal Capital and Buenos Aires Province, also in Chaco, Salta, Santiago del Estero, Santa Fe, San Juan and Tucuman; 97 percent in Cordoba, Corrientes, Misiones, Neuquen, Santa Cruz and San Luis; 96 percent in Chubut; 95 percent in Rio Negro; 91 percent in Entre Rios and 90 percent in Mendoza.

As to compliance by trade the CGT claimed that it was 100 percent in the following trade unions: foodworkers, winery workers, waterworks and sewerage workers, chemical workers, La Fraternidad, Association of State Workers, port workers, leather workers, glass workers, municipal workers, painters, Trade Union of Mechanics and Related Automative Transportation Workers, UTEDIC [expansion unknown], private petroleum workers, rubber industry workers, tobacco workers, oil workers, soft drink factory workers, state gas workers, railroad workers, naval workers, soft drink factory workers, state gas workers, Zapla smelters, light and power workers, railroad workers, naval workers, ceramic workers, brewery workers, Federation of Postal and Telecommunications Workers, paper workers, maritime workers, metalworkers, beef processing related workers, clothes factory workers, dairy workers, sugar mill workers, shoemakers and printers.

Opposition's Approval Noted

PY261944 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Jan 86 p 13

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Opposition leaders were quick to give their approval to Friday's general strike, while postal service head Ignacio Ortiz's resignation yesterday threatened to send the country's post offices back to work-to-rule measures. Former Peronist presidential candidate Italo Luder said the strike "constituted a mature expression that is a call to the government's attention. "Let's hope that the government will not lose its cool again," said Luder, "and that it confronts the responsibility of reconstruction of the productive apparatus."

Deputy Miguel Monserrat (Intransigent-BA) said observance levels for the CGT strike were "extraordinary" and that it showed "the people's rejection of the government's present economic policies. Senator Oraldo Britos (Peronist-San Luis) said the strike was "a true plebiscite" on the government and advised the administration not to consider it "an attack" on either it or the ruling party. He said the strike should be viewed as a "massive and just demand" for a change in official economic policies.

Also in labour, the month-long postal dispute threatened to heat up again as ENTEL Administrator-General Ortiz resigned when his accord with the union was rejected by President Raul Alfonsin's cabinet and reportedly Alfonsin himself. Postal employees had been working under slowdown measures until Wednesday, when an accord between Ortiz and postal workers union head Ramon Baldassani got the mails moving again. The accord provided for pay increases of between seven and 20 percent, but its terms were too generous for Ortiz's superiors in the President's cabinet. Ortiz will personally present his resignation to Alfonsin on Monday for him to accept or reject it. Baldassini sharply criticized the government for rejecting the accord and apparently pulling the rug out from under Ortiz, saying officialdom was making "a tremendous error" that "wouldn't stand up to any juridical analysis." Baldassini also said the accord "has been in effect since Wednesday and is not subject to modification of any kind" and expressed the solidarity "of 45,000 postal workers" with Ortiz.

Meanwhile, state workers union leader Victor De Genaro said the CGT is considering holding a "Unity Congress" with the participation of representatives from political parties, unions, and industrial organizations to "put together a national project that helps us overcome the crisis." Striking a constructive note after the CGT's general strike brought the country to a halt, De Genaro said the trade union federation will also consider re-joining the socio-economic conference and will call on the President to take action against price control violators.

CGT Secretary General Saul Ubaldini said "we will resume talks with the authorities only if they commit themselves to keeping in mind our proposals with seriousness and respect." Criticism of the strike came mainly from Radical circles. BA Province party boss Juan Manuel Casella said that such strikes "benefit fundamentally the aggressive left." Deputy Leopoldo Moreau (Radical-BA) said in Mar del Plata that he would like to debate publicly with Ubaldini on the issue of the foreign debt, adding that the strike "expressed a protest but in no way a proposal."

CAPUTO REVIEWS AGENDA, DEPARTS FOR USSR

PY270216 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0130 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Jan (DYN) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo tonight emphasized the symbolic importance of his trip to Moscow. He explained, however, that important bilateral economic issues will be discussed during the visit. Caputo added that the talks will also include detente, Mikhail Gorbachev's proposals for world disarmament, and the conflict in Central America, especially Nicaragua. Caputo made this statement at Ezeiza International Airport just before leaving for the Soviet Union, which is the first visit of an Argentine foreign minister to that country.

VICE PRESIDENT LEAVES FOR AZCONA INAUGURATION

PY251259 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1053 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (TELAM) -- Vice President Victor Martinez departed at exactly 0735 for Honduras from the presidential sector of Aeroparque Metropolitan Airport. On Monday, he will attend the inauguration of Jose Azcona Hoyo, Honduran constitutional president elected last November. The vice president and his retinue are scheduled to arrive in Tegucigalpa at 1800 Argentine time.

PCA RELAYS PCCH COMMUNIQUE ON ARMED STRUGGLE

PY212305 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1923 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jan (TELAM) -- The Communist Party of Argentina [PCA] has relayed a communique issued by its Chilean counterpart, denying that the Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] has chosen armed struggle as the way to confront the regime of Augusto Pinochet in Chile.

The communique states that Luis Guastavino, a PCCh member, stated that statements to that effect are part of an ongoing advertising campaign to create difficulties between Argentine democratic sectors and an important sector of the Chilean opposition to the dictatorship of Pinochet. The communique adds that the PCCh is being charged with creating problems for Argentina by choosing armed struggle, guerrilla warfare, or a war of attrition which, once again, we deny because we actually seek a broad social mobilization by the people through an understanding among all the opposition forces. The communique concludes by stating that the anti-communist campaign benefits Pinochet but that the democratic forces in other countries will not be involved in this campaign thanks to their maturity, reached at the expense of very dramatic experience.

INTERIOR MINISTRY CALLS COB STRIKE FAILURE

PY241346 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] The Interior Ministry has issued a communique stating that the general strike called by the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] for 23 January was a resounding failure. After referring to events that occurred in the past, the communique states that the Interior Ministry will make sure that the COB will not disrupt public order.

If there are new attempts to promote a social outburst through actions that are forbidden in any civilized country because of the danger they pose to innocent people, the Interior Ministry will take action in compliance with its specific duties. If necessary, the ministry will act with increasing strength, in proportion to the magnitude of the provocation.

ANALYSTS SAY PAZ' ACTIONS WEAKEN PARTY

PY241757 Paris AFP in Spanish 0311 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] La Paz, 23 Jan (AFP) -- Political analysts said here today that the installation of the new Cabinet yesterday has worsened the disagreements between Victor Paz Estenssoro and the leadership of the official party, the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR).

The analysts noted that the MNR leadership did not attend the installation of the new Cabinet, which is now made up of representatives of private enterprises, banks, and mining as well as sympathizers of the conservative Nationalists Democratic Alliance (ADN) of General Hugo Banzer Suarez in disregard of national MNR leaders.

It has also been learned that the MNR labor representatives submitted their resignations in the last few hours and later withdrew them under presidental pressure.

The MNR dissidents warn that Paz Estenssoro is once again weakening his party as on 4 November 1964 when he was overthrown by the Bolivian right.

GARCIA MEZA ASKS TO ASSUME DEFENSE AGAINST SUIT

PY241811 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Excerpt] As an exclusive news item, Panamericana aired at about 1830 the text of a letter sent from Montevideo, Uruguay, to the president of the honorable National Congress, Dr Julio Garret Ayllon, by General Luis Garcia Meza. The former President of a de facto government that came to power in a bloody coup d'etat against the constitutional government of Lydia Gueiler Tejada asks for guarantees from Congress so that he can appear in congress to defend himself in the suit against him for misconduct in the exercise of government.

We will now repeat the text of the letter signed by Luis Garcia Meza:

Your Excellency: Through reports in the Bolivian press, I have learned of the suit against the government I headed.

So far, the respective commission of the honorable Congress has instituted some sort of in absentia prosecution, without giving me the opportunity to defend myself as provided for in the laws of our country, which guarantee that no one can be sentenced without having had such an opportunity and that one is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

I therefore request, through your mediation, guarantees to assume my self-defense in the suit that is being brought against me. This is a right that has been denied me for 5 years, although it is an inviolable right of all people, as prescribed by the political Constitution of the state. This constitutional provision is not being respected in my case, despite the fact that strict observance of the Constitution is a tenet now being preached.

As former president of the Republic, General of the Armed Forces, and Bolivian citizen, I reiterate my request to Your Excellency for guarantees to assume my defense on behalf of the Armed Forces which I represented in the government.

BRIEFS

ARMED FORCES APPOINTMENT -- The Bolivian joint chiefs of staff has appointed Colonel Ivan Urgel as Armed Forces civic action director. The officer was sworn in on 13 January by Armed Forces Commander in Chief, General Raul Lopez Leyton. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Jan 85 p 5 PY]

ENVOY TO IRAQ TO PROBE PLO ARMS TRANSFER

PY241325 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1244 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Brasilia, 24 Jan (EFE) -- The Foreign Ministry has ordered its ambassador to Baghdad to investigate PLO access to Brazilian-made weapons and armored vehicles. The order was prompted by a report received here on a recent military parade in Baghdad in which PLO groups displayed Brazilian-made weapons and armored vehicles.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman stated today that Brazil does not recognize the PLO and does not sell arms to guerrilla groups. The Brazilian ambassador to Iraq, General Alacyr Werner, will have to prepare a report on the transfer of arms to the Palestinian guerrilla group.

Brazil, the world's fifth-ranking manufacturer of arms, sells large quantities of materiel to the Middle East. Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Libya, Iran, and Iraq use Brazilian arms. Local press sources believe Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi may have ordered the transfer to the PLO of arms Libya had purchased from Brazil. The Iranian Government could also have done so.

PRESIDENT SARNEY PROHIBITS BUDGET INCREASES

PY251351 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Frota Neto, presidential spokesman for economic matters, reported today that during yesterday's meeting with Finance Minister Dilson Funaro and Planning Minister Joao Sayad President Jose Sarney prohibited any further national budget increase in order not to boost inflation.

[Begin Neto recording] The president ordered that there be no increases in the national budget. He ordered no supplementary [word indistinct] in any (?respect). [end recording]

Neto said that the meeting was held to analyze January's high inflation rate.

[Begin recording] If it were not for the great increase in the prices of agricultural products, Brazilian inflation would be within (?limits) at around 10 percent a month. [passage indistinct] The state has adopted several measures to reduce, neutralize, and decrease the existing (?rates) to prevent future rates from reaching January's levels. [end recording]

POLITICAL FORCES ALIGN WITH QUADROS, BRIZOLA

PY242120 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0904 GMT 24 Jan 86

[By Francisco Roque Bararreza]

[Text] Brasilia, 24 Jan (EFE) -- Brazilian politics, 10 months after the reinstitution of democracy, are polarized by the populist figures of rightist Janio Quadros and Social Democrat Leonel Brizola.

According to statements by Health Minister Carlos Santana, the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party (PMDB), the main supporter of Jose Sarney's administration, has been struggling with a profound crisis which threatens to weaken it. The so-called independent left of the PMDB, one of whose members is Justice Minister Fernando Lyra, is negotiating an alliance with the charismatic Leonel Brizola, current governor of Rio de Janeiro and a possible presidential candidate of the Democratic Labor Party (PDT).

At the other end of the Brazilian political spectrum is the controversial former president and current mayor of Sao Paulo, Janio Quadros, who in a few months has become the catalyst of rightist forces.

Yesterday in Brasilia nine deputies of the PMDB and the Liberal Front Party (both party of the ruling Democratic Alliance coalition) announced their intentions to join the Brazilian Labor Party (PTB) headed by Quadros. The PTB is the third largest force in Congress and competes with the Liberal Front for second place. Quadros, who defeated the PMDB candidate in November, says he will not run for president in 1987, but his supporters say he will.

The formation of new leftist and rightist coalitions is in preparation for the political struggle in the November elections for the Constituent Assembly and governorships of 24 states.

Lyra, who has become the PMDB's enfant terrible, yesterday justified the probable leftist alliance with Brizola by his desire for the Constituent Assembly to continue its efforts to change social and democratic structures. Minister Lyra, without the support of the PMDB leaders, intends to meet in February with Luis Ignacio "Lula" da Silva, the main figure of the Labor Party (PT), in order to broaden the progressive front.

With similar intentions, Brizola and Fortaleza Mayor Maria Luiza Fontenele, a new political star of the PT, will meet in Rio de Janeiro on 21 January.

PMDB President Ulysses, in the face of the independent action of Lyra and the left, has said that his party has been building political bases in the cities for 20 years, but he admits that alliances might be formed for the upcoming November elections.

The conservative forces and the Brazilian right see their political alternative in Quadros. During the past mayoral elections they gave Quadros all the necessary support for his victory in Sao Paulo. According to analysts, the right intends to do the same thing in the upcoming elections so as to defend its interests and have a capable and experienced candidate to compete with the charismatic Brizola.

EMBRATEL TO REPRESENT URUGUAY IN INTELSAT

PY241431 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Brazil will represent Uruguay in the Intelsat system according to an agreement signed between the Communications Ministry and the National Administration for Telecommunications, the Uruguayan communications enterprise.

Brazil will defend the interests of Uruguay and Portugal in the Management Council [Junta de Governadores] of the (?Intercap) [not further identified].

From now on the Brazilian Telecommunications Company's [Embratel] vote will carry more weight and more political influence in the organization, as it will be the largest shareholder. Communications Minister Antonio Carlos Magalhaes emphasized Embratel's responsibility:

[Begin recording] I believe we will have a [words indistinct], but it will be used democratically because we will do it only after consulting with these countries. [end recording]

The Intelsat system has 110 member countries, but only the 16 largest shareholders can participate in the administrative and organizational decisions. Embratel is the eighth largest shareholder, with 3.4 percent of the capital, while Portugal and Uruguay do not have enough shares to participate in the council.

CONSTRUCTION OF SUPERSONIC PLANES STUDIED

PY221120 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Jan 85 p 4

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Brazilian Aeronautics Minister Brigadier General Octavio Moreira Lima yesterday revealed that Brazil is studying the possibility of purchasing and building supersonic planes for the Brazilian Armed Forces. General Moreira Lima made this remarks after a ceremony commemorating the 45th anniversary of his ministry at the Brasilia Air Base.

Speaking at a press conference, Moreira Lima indicated that there are good prospects for the widely varied projects that the Air Force has been developing. These projects involve the purchase and construction of supersonic airplanes. According to the minister, the Air Force General Staff is currently working with Embraer (Brazilian Aeonautics Enterprise) on studies concerning the design of these planes. Several international contacts with firms that manufacture supersonic aircraft have already been made for joint construction of these planes, because to build them without foreign assistance would be extremely expensive. The Belgian Air Force has already offered supersonic F-104 aircraft to Brazil, but according to Moreira Lima there are only some preliminary agreements in this regard.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Aeronautics believes that its main objective is ensuring the sovereignty of Brazilian airspace. A program is already under way to produce components for airplanes locally. Through this the aeronautics industry will develop the capacity to produce 70 percent of these components, and there will be no need to import them.

BRIEFS

AIR FORCE ACADEMY COMMANDER -- Brigadier Fernando Cesar de Oliveira assumed command of the Pirassununga Air Force Academy yesterday, replacing Brigadier Luiz Felipe Pinheiro, who has been appointed Brazilian military attache to the United States. [Summary] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jan 86 p 5 PY]

MILITARY REGION COMMANDER -- General Enio Martins Senna assumed command yesterday of the 2d Military Region. [Summary] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Jan 86 P 2 PY]

4 DEAD, 24 MISSING AFTER ARMS FACTORY EXPLOSION

PY252312 Paris AFP in Spanish 2255 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Iquique, 25 Jan (AFP) -- According to an official report released by the Cardoen Arms Factory today, 4 persons died, 11 were injured, and 24 are missing as a result of today's explosion in one of the sections of the plant. However, the communique did not report the exact causes of the explosion, which apparently occurred in the section where the powerful cluster bombs that Cardoen exports to Iraq, Iran, and other Middle East countries are manufactured.

MDP LEADER PLANS GENERAL STRIKE IN APRIL

AU242000 [Editorial Report] Vienna Domestic Service in German at 1720 GMT on 24 January carries a 5-minute report by Austrian radio reporter Reimund Loew on an interview given to him "in Vienna today" by Jose San Fuentes, general secretary of the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP), an alliance of "Chilean left-wing opposition parties." The report contains recorded portions of the interview.

Loew opens the report by quoting Fuentes on the need for unity of all "democratic forces" in Chile, for -- in the view of the Chilean opposition leader -- "the time is ripe for Pinochet's fall in 1986." The report goes on to quote Fuentes on the "growing isolation" of Pinochet, even on the right of Chile's political spectrum, on the "deteriorating human rights situation in the country"; and on the "catastrophic" economic situation of Chile. Loew then notes that, according to Fuentes, the Chilean opposition is preparing "a broad mobilization for the coming April, modelled on the national days of protest held last year."

Fuentes is then heard telling Loew (in Spanish, with superimposed German translation): The opposition is facing a great task. In April it is planning to paralyze the whole country, under the slogan 'Democracy Today, Pinochet Must Go.' It will not be a mere day of protest; the demonstrations are to be coupled with a general strike lasting several days. All workers -- Christian Democrats, socialists, and communists alike -- will stop working. Women, people from the slums, the entire population will demonstrate. It will be the largest anti-fascist mobilization in Chile in the last 12 years."

Concluding, Loew reports on the MDP's ideas about the future of Chile. He says that, after the fall of Pinochet, -- according to the MDP -- power should be taken over by a "provisional caretaker government representing all democratic forces." Thereafter, a "constituent assembly" should draw up a new constitution and "decide about the further development of the country."

BETANCUR CANCELS TRIP TO HONDURAN INAUGURATION

PA251811 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1756 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] It was announced officially today that President Belisario Betancur has suddenly canceled his trip to Honduras, where he was to attend the inauguration of President-elect Jose Azcona del Hoyo. Betancur has appointed Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo to represent him at the ceremonies. A brief bulletin from the Presidency made this announcement without disclosing why the president has canceled his planned visit to Honduras.

The Colombian president was to leave for Tegucigalpa on 26 January and stay for 36 hours.

NOTE TO VENEZUELA PROTESTS BOAT INCIDENT

PA260418 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 22 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez announced yesterday that a protest note has been sent to the Venezuelan Government regarding the detention by Venezuelan warships of two fishing vessels owned by the Vikingos enterprise last weekend and the entrance of those warships into Colombian territorial waters.

At the end of a special cabinet meeting, Ramirez Ocampo said it has been fully proved that the fishing vessels were in Colombian waters when they were approached by the Venezuelan warships.

Thus, the Venezuelans not only boarded the Colombian vessels and forced them to head toward Venezuela, they also invaded Colombian territory.

The Colombian foreign minister expressed surprise at this action, especially as there is an agreement between the Colombian and Venezuelan Armies [as published] to the effect that when one of their ships crosses into the waters of the other country in the border area, it should be told to turn back, rather than being boarded. Thus, it was the Venezuelans who violated Colombian territorial waters.

The Vikingos enterprise, which carries out fishing activities along the Colombian coasts, has repeatedly reported harrassment of its vessels and crewmen by Venezuelan warships.

35 KILLED IN ARMY, M-19 CLASHES IN POPAYAN

PA241653 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Popayan -- At least 35 soldiers and guerrillas have died so far in the heavy fighting taking place in Cauca's northeastern mountains. An offensive supported by Air Force planes and troops of the Rifles, Palace, and Pichincha Battalions, as well as special antiguerrilla forces, has been launched to counter the subversives' actions.

The guerrillas, who have been clashing with the Army since Wednesday night, are under the command of top M-19 [19 April Movement] leaders Alvaro Fayad, Carlos Pizarro Leon-Gomez, (Marcos Chalija), and Gustavo Arias Londono.

TERRORIST PLAN DISCOVERED IN BUCARAMANGA

PA240423 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] A plan to dynamite several administrative and military centers in order to disrupt the current electoral process has been discovered in Bucaramanga. Authorities have captured nine students from Indesco [not further identified] and the Industrial University of Santander who were in charge of the arsenal that would be used to isolate important sectors of the northern, southern, and central parts of Bucaramanga.

The 5th Brigade displayed the shotguns, rifles, revolvers, pistols, fragmentation grenades, and almost 30 bombs of varying destructive power with which they were planning to attack the mayor's office and administrative building in the downtown area, the Caldas and Ricaurte Battalions, the 5th Brigade headquarters, F-2 [Investigations Division], DAS [Administrative Department of Security], women's penitentiary, model jail, and 2 water storage tanks which serve 10,000 people in the southern part of Bucaramanga.

According to authorities, the plan was discovered when diagrams of all the installations they intended to blow up were found. These included the bridges over highways from Bucaramanga to Bogota and the northern coast. The plan included the theft of several vehicles that the terrorists would use to carry out these actions.

BRIEFS

NEW HEALTH MINISTER -- Efrain Otero Ruiz, former director of Colciencias [not further identified] will become the new health minister, replacing Rafael de Zubiria Gomez, who has been appointed mayor of Bogota. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Jan 86 pp 1 A, 1 B PA]

FOREIGN INVESTMENTS DROP -- Bogota, 20 Jan (DPA) -- For the first time in 7 years foreign investments approved by the Colombian National Planning Department were lower than $100 million. According to a report issued by that office, total investments approved in 1985 totaled only $86 million, compared to $162.171 million approved in 1984. This represents a reduction of approximately 50 percent, bringing approved investments to their lowest level since 1978, when only $66 million were approved. [Excerpt] [Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1719 GMT 20 Jan 86 PA]

COCA PLANTS FOUND -- Tunja -- It has been reported here that a large police operation is taking place in the area between Pauna and Muzo, western Boyaca, where large coca plantations have been found. According to preliminary reports, at least 20 hectares in the rural area of Pauna and Muzo had been planted with approximately 200,000 coca plants. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Jan 86 p 2 A PA]

INTERIOR MINISTRY SECRETARY GENERAL 'REMOVED'

PY241540 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Jan 86 p 18

[Text] Jorge Arevalos has been removed as secretary general of the Interior Ministry. The government has appointed Ricardo Brugada Leochaga to replace him. Brugada has already been installed in his new position.

Interior Ministry officials responsible for the decision failed to give reasons for Arevalos' removal and said that there was a "justified excuse" for not giving these reasons.

Unofficial sources also said that other officials have also been removed and that they are reportedly under disciplinary arrest in the Interior Ministry facilities. No official information was available regarding the reasons for these dismissals.

INDUSTRY MINISTER LEAVES FOR HONDURAS, U.S.

PY251440 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 25 Jan 86 p 8

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion left for Honduras and the United States yesterday. In Tegucigalpa, Minister Ugarte will head the Paraguayan delegation representing our government at the inauguration of the new Honduran president.

The industry minister will then go to the United States, where his activities will be related to his chairmanship of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council. He will also contact OAS financial officials and meet with OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares.

Minister Ugarte hopes to reach agreements on technical and financial aid for the Paraguayan industrial development programs.

POLICE ORDER MOPOCO PRESIDENT TO SURRENDER

PY241630 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1450 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] We have tried to contact Waldino Ramon Lovera, the current president of the National Accord [and president of the Colorado Popular Movement-Mopoco] but police units prevented reporters from this radio station from getting to the apartment of the opposition politician.

In view of this situation Fernando Vera, the president of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party, said:

[Begin recording] I was informed this morning that Waldino Ramon Lovera, who is the current president of the National Accord, is wanted by the police. Lovera is now in his apartment and police have ordered him to surrender. I understand that Lovera has no intention of surrendering to the police. This situation seems to indicate a new wave of repression, and I am not sure whether it is aimed against the National Accord or exclusively against the Mopoco. We will soon find out because it may also affect us. [end recording]

A few minutes later we were able to talk by phone with Waldino Ramon Lovera who confirmed that he was ordered to leave his apartment before noon.

[Begin Lovera recording] Yes indeed, this morning I was visited by four members of the Police Investigative Department who ordered me to leave the building by noon. When I asked the reasons for this and who ordered it, I was told that it was an order from high officials and that there was no warrant. I then asked for an official notification and was told that they did not have any.

One of the officers, who identified himself, is Rojas Arellano, a man I know because 2 years ago, when I tried to enter the country with Faustino Centurion it was Rojas Arellano who was in charge of the Ita Enramada Police Precinct, and who arrested us and returned us to Argentine territory. This is an arbitrary decision breaking up the initiative of dialogue sponsored by the Paraguayan Catholic Church.

This action is aimed at intimidating not only the Mopoco but also the National Accord. This is an attack against all parties. It is using repressive mechanisms in an effort to try to silence the Mopoco and the desires of national conciliation and dialogue sponsored by the National Accord.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my most energetic protest and to convey to the dictatorship that the Mopoco will continue firm in its struggle and that we are willing to run all kinds of risks in the defense of the good name of the glorious Colorado Party which the Mopoco is proud to represent before the entire country. [end recording]

In conclusion, Waldino Ramon Lovera, the current president of the National Accord and Mopoco, said: I will not leave my apartment unless a court order is presented.

Extend Arrest Deadline

PY241747 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1505 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Relay by Yiyo Riveros]

[Text] It is now 1205, the noon deadline given Waldino Ramon Lovera to leave his apartment has now passed. However, we have unofficially learned that the police have extended the deadline. Therefore, the police have not arrested Lovera, who lives on the ninth floor of a building located across from the Plaza Uruguaya.

So far there has been no arrest. However, none of the Colorado Popular Movement [Mopoco] members who came to Lovera's apartment were unable to get in to see him. They were told by the police that they could not enter the apartment, but that Waldino Lovera could leave if he so desired. However, we do not know if he will be allowed to return once he leaves his apartment.

Let me point out that some Mopoco members living in Uruguay have come here. This is the case of Luis Medina who came to attend a Mopoco plenum scheduled to meet from 25 to 26 January. The plenum will study the current political activities. There is still no information about the decision of the Mopoco leaders will make regarding Mopoco President Waldino Ramon Lovera's situation.

Some Mopoco members have unofficially reported that despite this situation the plenum will open tomorrow and close on 26 January. In conclusion, Waldino Ramon Lovera has not yet been arrested.

Situation Turns Violent

PY251703 Paris AFP in Spanish 1619 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Asuncion, 25 Jan (AFP) -- About 20 people were bruised and two injured last night during a police repression against almost 50 leaders of Mopoco. The confrontation occurred when the Mopoco members tried to enter the home of a party member for a meeting of the dissident wing of the government party. Mopoco President Waldino Ramon Lovera, who is also president of the opposition National Accord, was among those beaten by the Paraguayan political police.

Lovera told AFP today that the leaders had gone to the home of Julio Cesar Vasconcellos, a Mopoco member, where they had planned to hold a Mopoco plenary meeting with the participation of delegates living in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay. The politicians found approximately 50 uniformed and plainclothes policemen cordoning off the house. When more of their personnel arrived the police started to pursue the opposition politicians with pistols and electric truncheons to disperse them.

Lovera said that during the repression he had been beaten all over his body and charged that the political police vented their spite on the leader Emilio Reinal, who lives in Brazil. He had to be taken immediately to the First Aid Hospital to be treated for cuts on the head and all over his body.

Mrs Sarah Vasconsellos the host's wife, was brutally beaten when she attempted to mediate.

Yesterday police personnel ordered Lovera to leave his residence, but he ignored the order. Later, the nearly 20-man police task force withdrew from Lovera's building but ordered him not to receive any of his party members.

The Mopoco leader identified senior police officer Arellano as head of the repressive police task force.

Lovera said: He is the same officer who turned me over to the Argentine authorities when I attempted to return to the country 2 years ago.

Lovera added that Jose Zacarias Arza and Angel Florentin Pena, a former agriculture minister, are among those injured by the police repressive action.

In a statement to AFP, Lovera described the police action as arbitrary and noted that it reflects the chaotic reign of terror used by the dictatorship to stay in power for 31 years.

Lovera added that the government is obviously seeking to block the democratization effort promoted by the National Accord through the mediation of the Catholic Church.

National Accord Issues Communique

PY260136 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2305 GMT 26 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jan (DYN) -- Political leaders in exile living in Argentina today reported in this capital that approximately 50 members of Mopoco were attacked in Asuncion when they were about to begin a plenary meeting.

Mopoco and the National Accord issued a communique signed by Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, Mopoco secretary for international affairs, denouncing the outrage.

According to the communique, police officers and specially hired henchmen brutally attacked the politicians who had gathered at a residence in Asuncion at 1030 this morning.

When the politicians went to the building, they were surrounded by more than 50 uniformed policemen, and while they were talking with police authorities, three automobiles approached with 20 plainclothesmen armed with electric truncheons who beat up the politicians, the communique stated.

It went on to say that in view of this "violent regression," the Mopoco militants went to another place, "where police harassment continued, they were again attacked, and a few more of them were injured."

As a result of the repression, Waldino Lovera, president of the Mopoco and of the National Accord, and Emilio Rey, secretary for labor union affairs, were seriously injured and had to be taken to a hospital, while 25 other militants sustained abrasions and injuries.

The politicians living in Argentina stated that this "new display of violence by General Alfredo Stroessner's dictatorship is the crowning act of the systematic harassment and restriction of Mopoco members who ever since their return to Paraguay after almost 25 years in exile have been the target of continuous police surveillance and repeated violations of their own and their relatives' freedom and security."

The exiles' communique also indicated that "the violence unleashed by Stroessner's dictatorship is the reaction to the decision of the Episcopal Conference of the Paraguayan Catholic Church to act as the go-between for a national dialogue aimed at reconciliation in the quest for a democratic opening."

The Mopoco and National Accord communique concludes by appealing "to the democratic awareness of fraternal Latin American peoples to firmly support the struggle of the Paraguayan people for the recovery of their freedom by implementing a policy of isolation and punishment."

GARCIA REAFFIRMS SOLIDARITY WITH NICARAGUA

PY251141 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0152 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Lima, 24 Jan (EFE) -- It was reported in Lima today that during his meeting with Nicaraguan Ambassador to Peru Mauricio Cuadra, Peruvian President Alan Garcia reaffirmed his "total and militant solidarity with the Sandinist revolution." Deputy Carlos Roca, chairman of the foreign relations committee of the Chamber of Deputies, who went to Government House to say farewell to Garcia before departing on a tour through Italy, France, and Spain on 25 January, revealed the details of the meeting between the president and the Nicaraguan ambassador.

Roca explained that the president told Cuadra that Peru wants to continue cooperating with Nicaragua. Roca went on to say that "we are aware that Nicaragua is currently the victim of North American imperialism, that it is under a blockade, and there is a desire to somehow smother the revolutionary effort of the Nicaraguan people."

"President Garcia has reaffirmed his solidarity with Sandinist Nicaragua," the deputy emphasized. He added that as the leader of the social democratic American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, APRA, Garcia has agreed to send an APRA delegation "of the highest level" to the meeting of parties friendly with the Sandinist National Liberation Front that will take place in Managua.

GARCIA LAUDS PEACE COMMISSION, RAPS TERRORISTS

PY251744 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 25 Jan 86

[From the "24 Hours" program]

[Text] President Alan Garcia today made it clear that the government will fight violence to the end and noted that a few dozen or hundreds of misguided people will not make him resort to brutal actions. President Garcia was thus referring to recent terrorist attacks reported in Lima and other Peruvian cities. In remarks to Radioprogramas del Peru, the president reaffirmed his full confidence in the members of the Peace Commission for having shown calmness and wisdom.

[Begin Garcia recording] In the first place, the members of the Peace Commission have not resigned. As they themselves said, they simply placed their positions at my disposal to give me and the executive branch the freedom to decide whether or not they should continue their work. Secondly, even if the Peace Commission members resigned, I would not relinquish either peace or a very important institution that represents beyond legal and constitutional provisions the government's decision to effectively address the wave of violence we are experiencing.

Thirdly, I believe those commentators and critics who contend that the Peace Commission has not fulfilled its mission are mistaken. The Peace Commission is part of the presidential pacification policy. I believe we have obtained important results during the past few months because no excesses have been committed and the government has not, as it did in the past, undertaken repulsive or condemnable actions. If violence is being used, it does not come from the government but from subversive groups, which are resorting to brutal violence. This is an extremely important fact because one cannot respond to brutal actions with brutal actions.

Moreover, based on recommendations by the Peace Commission, the government has taken legal actions in court regarding some people who were unjustly detained. Thus, for the first time, the government has taken steps to obtain the release of 160 people listed by the Commission. This list was endorsed by [United Left leader and Lima mayor] Alfonso Barrantes. Dozens of people on this list have already been released, and more than 100 have obtained favorable opinions from prosecutors stating that there is no evidence supporting their detention. Thus, these people will be released as soon as a brief court procedure is completed. In the opinion of the Peace Commission, these people are not terrorists and judges and prosecutors are reaching the same conclusion.

Furthermore, the Peace Commission was instrumental in allowing international organizations to enter the emergency zone. Not even the Red Cross could do so in the past. As we said earlier, the Red Cross can now freely confirm that no torture or executions are taking place in our country. Therefore, we should make it quite clear that the Peace Commission has indeed fulfilled a very important mission as a permanent advisory body that plays a soul-searching role for the government. We should not be impatient regarding a long-standing problem such as violence, which stems from the intolerance and misguidance of some people. The Commission has helped us change substantially government's modus operandi, to the point that the executive branch itself has requested that the judicial branch order the release of some people. We hope the judicial branch will do so.

We would also like to briefly state that the Peace Commission has helped us make the world aware of the fact that we are not violating human rights here. This does not mean, however, that we are taking a weak stand toward terrorism, which we will continue to fight and condemn. Consequently, I wish to convey my gratitude to the members of the Peace Commission for having placed their positions at my disposal. We have just had a long meeting to evaluate future actions by the Commission, which I repeat has not resigned, because no one can relinquish his efforts to promote peace, let alone the president. I will not give up my efforts to promote peace and those misguided people will have to either pointlessly persist in their errors or correct their attitude. Democracy will prevail as an instrument of change, and we are going to prove to them that we can change society to promote justice, and to provide well-being to our people, without resorting to murder and without using undernourished, helpless, unarmed mobs as cannon fodder against government forces, as they have done. [end recording]

Commission Members Comment

PY241646 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Unidentified members of Peace Commission grant press conference to unidentified reporters after presidential meeting at Government House in Lima]

[Excerpts] The members of the Peace Commission tonight explained that they have not resigned but have placed their resignations at the disposal of the president who is evaluating a reorganization of the Commission. The members of the Commission today held a meeting with President Alan Garcia.

[Begin recording] [question indistinct]

[Answer] We held an extensive meeting during which we exchanged several points of view. The president is evaluating the work of the Commission. He will address the public within a few days and explain something in this regard.

[Question] Has the president accepted the resignations?

[Answer] He is studying the situation. We must be very clear in that we have not resigned. We have offered to resign. There is an important difference between these two actions. We have not resigned. We have placed ourselves at the disposal of the president.

[Question] Have you done this because the Commission has not received political support from the government?

[Answer] Well, we wanted to leave the president free to reorganize the Commission if he believes this is convenient, or to eventually either confirm the members of the Commission or appoint new members.

[Question] Have you been able to work in those areas in which you wished to work?

[Answer] I believe so. The Commission has continuously been making a series of recommendations and guiding the authorities on the enforcement of certain measures which have been implemented.

We have put our resignations at the disposal of the president because we have made a series of recommendations about the structure of the Commission and certain guidelines that must be adopted by the Commission. This is the conclusion of 4 months of work [word indistinct] during which we have learned a lot. Our work has been quite fruitful in establishing the guidelines that must be adopted by the Peace Commission. [end recording]

New Commission Planned

PY241751 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Movement] Deputy Alberto Valencia yesterday noted that a new Peace Commission will be established. According to Valencia the members of the new Commission, which will replace the resigning Peace Commission, will be appointed on the basis of representativity. Regarding the resignation of the Commission members who inferred a lack of government support, Valencia said that this is logical since unfortunately the Commission did not fulfill its objective. He noted that the new Commission will be organized by himself with the support of the president and that it will be made up of people representing vast national sectors.

The Justice Ministry yesterday rejected the charges raised by Diego Garcia Sayan, resigning member of the Commission, who said that the Justice Ministry joined others in not supporting the task of the Commission. Regarding the reasons that caused the resignation of the members of the Commission, a Justice Ministry spokesman said that Garcia's charges about the ministry's attitude is unjust, and described Garcia's statement as thoughtless. The Justice Ministry spokesman, Cesar Campos Leon, telephoned local newspapers, among them EXPRESSO, to note that since they were aware of the responsibility of its task, the ministry never refused to support the Commission's activities.

CONGRESS, PRESIDENT DISAGREE OVER BUDGET

PY240228 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0858 GMT 23 Jan 86

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 23 Jan (EFE) -- After vetoing the first Congress-approved budget since 1972, the government of Julio Maria Sanguinetti is at odds with Congress. It is also confronting labor unions over its decision on the next salary increase.

Since the progovernment Colorado Party does not have an absolute majority in the 130-seat Congress, the budget was approved with the votes of the opposition. The executive branch has objected to 55 articles of the Congress-approved budget because the budget does not provide for adequate financing and, therefore, its execution may generate uncontrolled inflation. The executive branch's original budget had a deficit of $120 million, and Congress increased it by 16 billion pesos, about $125,984,250.

The opposition does not have sufficient votes in Congress to overrule the executive branch's veto. This constitutionally requires the vote of three-fifths of the members of Congress; that is, 78 votes. However, the government does not have the 65 plus 1 vote majority needed to approve the budget, either. So, Uruguay might end up without a democratically-approved budget and have to implement the budget established by the military regime, which apportioned 43 percent of expenditures to national defense and police requirements.

Sources close to the government feel that a high-level political agreement might be reached with the opposition leaders Wilson Ferreira Aldunate of the Blanco Party and Liber Seregni of the Broad Front Coalition.

President Sanguinetti also has problems with the country's largest labor organization, the Interunion Plenum and Workers' National Convention (PIT-CNT), which has just objected to the procedure of establishing salaries by administrative resolution. The labor leaders have met with Labor Minister Hugo Fernandez Faingold to express their objection to the government's decision to grant across-the-board salary readjustments by decree, without convening the sectorial salary councils.

The spokesmen for the PIT-CNT said that although no resolution has been adopted, "a 24-hour general stoppage cannot be discarded" in a future plan of mobilization to protest the measure. The PIT-CNT expressed concern "for the return to the dictatorship's system of establishing salaries by decree."

President Sanguinetti convened three salary councils in 1 year.

Minister Fernandez Faingold said that the rejection of the procedure by the PIT-CNT does not mean the workers organization will walk out of the High Salary Council. The labor minister said that the government is considering modernizing salary legislation, which dates back to 1943 and is totally inadequate for a period of inflation.

Under a decree by the Sanguinetti government, the "salary council" must convene three times a year, not just once as dictated by the law.

These meetings must be more frequent in view of the inflationary process, whose index was 83.03 percent last year.

While it is studying the new system, the government announced that salary readjustment will be established by decree, without convening the councils. The workers' through their organization, asserted that this procedure "curtails the gains the unions have made" after the return to democracy.

Minister Fernandez Faingold said that 1985 had been the year of the salary recovery, which, according to ECLA, was the highest in Latin America with 12.06 percent.

The minister also said that in the next 18 months, the government will seek to consolidate the level of salaries and to reduce the current 12.71-percent unemployment rate.

PRESIDENT SEEKS BROAD NATIONAL AGREEMENT

PY240225 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The government has made its first contacts with the opposition to establish the bases for a national agreement. President Julio Maria Sanguinetti today met at the Libertad building with Civic Union Executive Board President Humberto Ciganda and Broad Front leader General Liber Seregni. This was the first phase of negotiations aimed at interparty and intersector agreements on political, economic, social, and labor issues.

The meeting between Ciganda and Sanguinetti took place in the morning and the political leader explained later that it served to evaluate the accomplishments of 1985 and to develop future strategy.

Asked for further details of the agreement that the government is proposing, Ciganda stated that it encompasses several issues but basically its purpose is to strengthen and reaffirm the institutional system.

Sanguinetti also met with Broad Front leader Liber Seregni who at the end of the meeting, which took place on the seventh floor of the presidential building, said that this meeting allowed them to pick up the conversation which was suspended shortly before the end of the year for lack of time.

Seregni said that during the talks, he insisted on the need to look for solutions to the crisis that is plaguing the country. Asked about the differences between government and opposition. Seregni said that the main problem is that there are disagreements on how to tackle the economic problem.

Discusses Modernization Plan

PY250133 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Relay from Government House by Luis Suarez Silvera]

[Excerpt] Taking into consideration Uruguay's present situation, the government believes it indispensable to create an atmosphere of domestic stability capable of fostering investments. This conclusion was reached during the high-level meeting that President Julio Maria Sanguinetti held today with several members of his Cabinet and Colorado Party lawmakers.

At the end of the meeting, which took place at the Libertad building and lasted almost 3 hours, the Presidential Press Secretariat released a communique stating that the president proposed a 3-year program within two goals: the institutional consolidation of the country to protect it from destabilizing factors that were apparent this year and the implementation of a plan for social and economic modernization capable of updating the social and economic structure of the nation within the limits prescribed by the worldwide crisis.

During the meeting, the president also reported on the political initiative that he has launched, namely his talks with Broad Front leader Liber Seregni and Humberto Ciganda of the Civic Union. According to the communique these contacts will continue in the near future.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR UK, ISRAEL, EGYPT

PY252324 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1539 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Montevideo, 25 Jan (EFE) -- Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias today left for London, where he will begin a tour that will also include Israel, Spain, Algeria, and Egypt. According to the Foreign Ministry, Iglesias will deliver a lecture at an international symposium on debt and development that will be held in London under the sponsorship of the HERALD TRIBUNE and the IDB.

The same source said that among the lecturers are Venezuelan Finance Minister Manuel Aspurua, Brazilian Central Bank President Fernando Bracher, former Mexican Finance Minister Jesus Silva, and former Peruvian Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa.

The foreign minister's lecture is entitled "Beyond the Debt Crisis; Latin America in the Next 10 Years."

Iglesias will then travel to Barcelona, where he will meet regional authorities. He will then travel to Israel, where he will join Vice President Enrique Tarigo, who will be visiting that country. In Israel, Iglesias, who was invited by the World Jewish Congress, will lecture on "the Third World's foreign debt."

The foreign minister will then travel to Algeria, where he will promote bilateral trade and support a special mission that is now in that country.

The last leg of the foreign minister's tour takes him to Egypt, where in response to an invitation from the Egyptian foreign minister, he will make the arrangements for the upcoming visit of President Julio Maria Sanguinetti.

During his stay in Cairo, Iglesias will meet President Husni Mubarak.

DELEGATION TO AZCONA INAUGURATION ANNOUNCED

PA260240 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Contadora Group foreign ministers and their Support Group counterparts will meet again on Monday in Tegucigalpa, Honduras on the occasion of the inauguration of Honduran President Jose Azcona del Hoyo.

[Begin recorded report by Martin Pacheco] That report was confirmed today at the Yellow House where the members of the delegation that will travel to the inauguration of President Azcona del Hoyo were announced. The group will be headed by Foreign Minister Dr Simon Alberto Consalvi. Other members include Ruben Carpio Castillo, president of the Senate Foreign Policy Commission; Oswaldo Alvarez Paz, president of the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Policy Commission,; Jose Rodriguez Iturbe, secretary of COPEI International Affairs Commission; Armed Forces representatives; and Dionisio Marcano, the Venezuelan ambassador in Tegucigalpa.

This new meeting of the negotiating group will help further the exploration of agreement areas toward the definitive signing of a peace document for Central America. Dr Consalvi was questioned by reporters on the position maintained by Nicaraguan contras, which according to some experts, clashes with Contadora principles.

[Begin recording] [Unindentified reporter] Doesn't the presence of contras in Venezuela contradict the spirit of Contadora?

[Consalvi] Venezuela is a democratic country; it is open to and imposes no restrictions on those who wish to express their viewpoints. Therefore, I see no contradiction in their presence in Venezuela. [end recording]

Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo is expected to visit Caracas to discuss peace plans for Central America. This was a report from the Yellow House, Martin Pacheco, "The News" newscast. [end recorded report]

MEXICAN ENERGY SECRETARY ARRIVES ON VISIT

PA260100 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Francisco Labastida, Mexican secretary of energy, mines, and parastatal industry, arrived this afternoon in our country to exchange views on the oil market with his Venezuelan counterpart Arturo Hernandez Grisanti and Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc. officials.

[Begin recorded report by Carlos Fernandes] Labastida told newsmen that the main objective of his visit is to review the current oil market situation. He was undoubtedly very discreet. Nevertheless, he admitted that the situation is very difficult, which is why he is visiting.

There were various questions asked. One of them referred to the strong possibility that Mexico will reduce the price of its oil. Without dwelling much on the confidential aspects of the issue, Labastida admitted that possibility -- at least that is what we surmised from his answer.

[Begin recording] [Fernandes] International dispatches continuously insist that Mexico, in the face of the situation in the international oil market, will reduce the price of its oil.

[Labastida] Well, the general applies to the individual. The price of petroleum has already dropped. If one wishes to sell in the current disorderly, low price market, if one needs to obtain revenues, then one must adjust prices. [end recording]

Responding to questions by reporters, the Mexican secretary added that talks with Venezuelan officials will also aim to step up the exchange of ideas in the face of the international oil market situation.

On his part, Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, minister of energy and mines, was even more discreet than his Mexican counterpart. Nevertheless, he did not abstain from commenting on the current situation in the international oil market. [end recorded report]

NEW INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS APPOINTED

PA171538 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] As of today, William Davila Barrios is the new deputy interior affairs minister. Davila Barrios was sworn in by Interior Affairs Minister Octavio Lepage. During the same ceremony, Pedro Guillermo de Leon was sworn in as the new identification and alien affairs [identificacion y extranjeria] director. The following is a report by Martin Pacheco.

[Begin recording] [Pacheco] According to Minister Octavio Lepage, this event is part of the ministry's reorganization process. The ministry's directors all resigned from their offices to facilitate Minister Lepage's task, which includes removals, replacements, and transfers from one office to another. Also sworn in during the same ceremony were: Domingo de Alessandro, weapons and explosives director; and Luis Eduardo Brizuela, alien control [control de extranjeros] director.

According to Minister Lepage, the dynamic policy and the need to promote a greater dynamism among his officials were the reasons that President Jaime Lusinchi gave in approving these appointments.

[Lepage] Yesterday, in a gesture that I appreciate, the directors presented their resignations. For the time being, and with the approval of the president of the Republic, I have made these four appointments.

[Pacheco] For the new deputy internal affairs minister, his new duties are a challenge that he will try to fulfill with the same willingness and desire to satisfy the great national aspirations.

[Davila] It is a commitment so that the generation I am a part of will fulfill its role in this country that needs so much of us.

[Pacheco] Of great significance is the fact that many young people were appointed to the Interior Affairs Ministry's directorate. These new appointments will permit important contacts with all government offices to facilitate the work to be done and which are part of the campaign promises made by President Jaime Lusinchi. [end recording]

THREE LIBYAN TERRORISTS PLAN 'TO ENTER' U.S.

PA241841 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1653 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jan (EFE) -- Agents of Interpol-Mexico are looking for three Libyan terrorists who are believed to be in Chihuahua State in northern Mexico, the newspaper EXCELSIOR reported today.

According to the newspaper, the terrorists are planning to enter the United States through the border crossing at Ciudad Juarez, and their presence in the country has been proven.

EXCELSIOR cited sources close to the Government Secretariat who displayed the files of the three Libyans, two of whom actively participated in the terrorist attack at the Beirut airport on 14 June 1985.

According to the sources, the Libyan terrorists are Hamad Mohammad, who speaks English and Arabic and whose age has not been determined; Buslin 'Ammar Mansur, hijacker and suspected leader of the group; and 'Izz al-Din Hasan, known as "sa'id" and one of the terrorists most sought by the international police forces.

They indicated that the three Libyans entered Mexico on a TWA flight and that they subsequently traveled to northern Mexico.

ENERGY MINISTER REMARKS ON WORLD OIL CRISIS

PA242027 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Francisco Labastida Ochoa, secretary of energy, mines and parastatal industry, will arrive in Caracas today where he will hold talks with Venezuelan authorities regarding the crisis on the international oil market. Labastida Ochoa will meet with Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, Venezuelan minister of energy and mines, and with executives of Petroven.

During President De la Madrid's tour of Michoacan yesterday, Labastida Ochoa said that the highly industrialized countries are responsible for the problem that the international market is experiencing. Labastida reiterated that by the end of January, Mexico will announce the new mechanisms that will be introduced to try to bring order to the international hydrocarbons market.

When asked about the usefulness of OPEC during this period of instability in the oil market, Labastida replied: I think OPEC has reduced its participation in the international market from two-thirds of its exports to one-third. Consequently, its capacity to control the entire process has also been reduced. Therefore, it is necessary for other countries to cooperate to solve the oil problem.

Labastida Ochoa also said that he is planning to initiate the second phase of the Lazaro Cardenas Iron and Steel Complex located in Las Truchas, Michoacan.

To Meet Venezuelan Counterpart

FL241752 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1720 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Today, Energy, Mines and Parastatal Industry Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa traveled to Caracas, Venezuela, where he will discuss with his Venezuelan counterpart Arturo Hernandez Grisanti the recent changes of the international oil market.

Likewise, he will hold talks with executives of the state-run oil firm in Venezuela to examine the short-term perspectives of the world oil crisis. The talks will begin today in Caracas. The Mexican official is expected to arrive there after 1700 Mexican time [words indistinct] in order to maintain the stability of the international oil market.

Labastida Ochoa is travelling in a Grumman aircraft owned by Pemex.

ENVOY SAYS FOREIGN POLICY MUST NOT CHANGE

FL250354 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0130 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican foreign policy cannot and must not change because of foreign pressure because it is based on unchanging principles such as nonintervention and the self-determination of the peoples. These concepts were expressed by Mexican Ambassador to Cuba Enrique Olivares Santana, who arrived today in this capital to converse with high officials of the Secretariat of Foreign Relations regarding bilateral relations between the two countries.

When he was interviewed at Mexico City International Airport, the diplomat underscored the fact that the basic principles of our foreign policy have deep historical roots and a great natural consensus that will not vary because of internal domestic problems. He said that these principles impede any variation in our pacifist positions on nonintervention and sovereignty even if they sometimes do not coincide with those of other nations. He said that when the Mexican Government has criticized and condemned military intervention, it has done so based on these principles.

Speaking of the Central American problem, Olivares Santana expressed hope that this year peace will be achieved in the region that will bring about development and well-being for those nations.

Cuba Not 'Source of Conflict'

FL251950 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1642 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Ambassador to Cuba Enrique Olivares Santana has said that Mexico's foreign policy is inalterable in respect to world peace, nonintervention, and defense of the sovereignty of states. Olivares Santana also said that Cuba is not a source of conflict for Central America and that it does not intervene in Central American affairs as the Contadora and Support Groups have accused.

The ambassador stated that there should be respect, support, and equality between the states to achieve economic advancement and Latin American tranquility by promoting a clear understanding and political organization of the regional countries. He said peace in Central America is in danger but an effort is being made to preserve it since it is necessary and advisable.

In reference to Cuba, Olivares Santana, who acted as Mexican interior secretary, said this country is not a source of conflict for Central America and added that the proof is Cuban President Fidel Castro Ruz' favorable acceptance of the Caraballeda, Venezuela agreement, which supports the peaceful intentions of the Contadora Group.

The Mexican ambassador to Cuba said diplomatic relations between the United States and Mexico will continue to be friendly and cooperative.

U.S. CONGRESSMEN, DELVALLE DISCUSS CANAL ISSUES

PA260338 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 25 Jan 86 pp 1 A, 8 A

[By Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Text] U.S. congressman from Washington State, Michael Lowry, affirmed that the Panama Canal "is protected and we will continue to protect it," implying that the defense, security, and protection of the waterway is an issue that concerns the professionals (meaning the U.S. and Panamanian military).

Judging by his statements, Congressman Lowry is not worried about security because there is an existing joint defense and security program by Panama and the United States.

The U.S. congressman and six other colleagues from that northern country met yesterday afternoon with President Eric Delvalle and talked about the obligations of the civilian part, concerning the Canal Commission, the waterway's future stability, its operation and progress, and issues related to all other activities under way in one of the biggest achievements of man's creativeness.

Michael Lowry is the chairman of the U.S. Congress Panama Canal subcommittee and of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. He will remain in Panama until Monday, when he and his colleagues will conclude their tour. An open meeting has been scheduled for that day with Panamanian legislators, particularly members of the Panama Canal Affairs Committee.

At the end of their meeting with President Delvalle at the Presidential Palace, Lowry said he was impressed by the democratic way the Panamanian chief of state is leading the country.

"I am pleased with his work," he said commenting that his country (United States) will continue working to guarantee democratic stability, and to strengthen the relations between the two countries, mainly to guarantee the control by Panamanians of the canal by the year 2000.

Delvalle and the U.S. congressmen exchanged information on the democratization of Panama, bilateral relations, the execution of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties, the handling of the canal, the Panamanian workers' stability in the canal area, and the foreign debt.

"It was a good meeting," Lowry noted. He was accompanied by members of the U.S. Embassy and the administrator of the canal, Dennis McAuliffe.

Yesterday morning, the U.S. Congress group met with the Panama Canal administrators, who briefed them on the Panamanian complaints about the Murphy Law, the future of the canal, its handling and operation, and the growing participation of Panamanians.

According to Lowry, the report submitted by McAuliffe and Manfredo was good, and as to the growing participation, he commented that the Panamanians should know that after the year 2000, their jobs are not threatened in any way.

The U.S. Congressional delegation headed by Lowry also included Dennis Hertel of Michigan, Tomas Manton of New York, Webb Franklin of Mississippi, Silvio Conte of Massachusetts, Lawrence Coughlin of Pennsylvania, and Jose Skeen of New Mexico.

VICE PRESIDENT HEADS DELEGATION TO HONDURAS

PA260405 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 25 Jan 86 pp 1 A, 16 A

[Excerpt] The vice president of the Republic, Dr Roderick Esquivel, heads the official delegation that will represent the Panamanian Government at the presidential inauguration in the sister Republic of Honduras on 27 January.

The delegation will depart on Sunday at 1000 from the Panamanian Air Force terminal. It is made up of His Excellency Dr Jorge Abadia Arias, foreign relations minister; Lieutenant Colonel Ricardo Garibaldo Figueroa, G-1 of the General Staff of the Defense Forces; Luis Arrieta Aleman, general director of protocol and official ceremonies; Deus Navarro, charge d'affaires of the Panamanian Embassy in Honduras; and the Honorable Rodrigo Esquivel Klein. Journalists Luis Estribi and Carlos Acevedo of the Information Office of the Presidency will cover the event.

PRD REJECTS MILITARY ROLE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

PA240421 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0130 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Panama City, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The leader of the largest political party in Panama today said that his group will not support a possible Panamanian military role in Central America as a result of U.S. pressure.

Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, top leader of the ruling Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), said, however, that recently there has been no pressure by the United States for Panama to become involved in a military intervention in Central America.

"The PRD," Bethancourt added, "will at no time support any Panamanian military involvement in any military action against our Central America brothers."

"We are accustomed to the constant pressure, threats, and suggestions by certain U.S. sectors. This is nothing new to us," the PRD leader said during a press conference held at the party's headquarters.

"The PRD is opposed to stepping up the war in Central America; it supports and pressures the government to increase its efforts to strengthen the Contadora Group; and it has supported, and will continue to support, the National Defense Forces' efforts in Central America."

Bethancourt recalled that General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Pananmanian National Defense Forces, "has met with Honduran, Nicaraguan, and Salvadoran leaders in an attempt to get the Central American military men to join in the search for a peaceful solution for the area."

Bethancourt called the press conference to announce the reorganization of the top directors of the largest party backing the government led by President Eric Arturo Delvalle.

Economic Commission Formed

PA241925 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 24 Jan 86 pp 1 A, 14 A

[Article by Claudio Herrera J.]

[Excerpts] Announcing important appointments within the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) structure yesterday Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt told the national and international press that "it is not true that there is an attempt to create a national situation that will pave the way for the creation of a government junta."

At a press conference held at the PRD headquarters -- located in the Villa Lilla residential area in Panama City's San Francisco corregimiento -- yesterday, the experienced politician also referred to the recently concluded strike by public employees, as well as to the PRD leadership's position concerning the foreign debt problem and other topics.

Asked about the country's situation, Escobar Bethancourt maintained that the PRD, through the National Executive Committee, sent a letter to the president stating its position regarding "the country's economic-political problem."

Following this letter and meetings held with the president, a commission made up of PRD members was appointed. This commission, together with those appointed by the other parties that make up the Democratic National Union (UNADE), "are conducting studies on the different areas that the PRD views as basic in order to face the country's economic situation," Escobar Bethancourt added.

The PRD president rejected the effort to label the commitments the national government may make with the IMF as a letter of intent. "This gives the idea that our country is submissive to international (credit) organizations."

Expanding on this topic, he said that "simply, what is being done is that the national government is seriously analyzing the economic and foreign debt problems, and is deciding what measures to take in this regard."

Although he admitted that an understanding must be reached with international credit organizations, Escobar Bethancourt noted that "this must be done within the framework of the protection of national interests, the country's dignity, and the defense of our sovereignty."

He said that there is not now and there has never been any intention to establish a government junta and attributed this information to "rumors spread by the opposition."

COSTA RICA

SANDINIST ARMY BORDER ATTACKS PROTESTED

PA250336 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0012 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] San Jose, 24 Jan (DP) -- Costa Rica today denounced armed attacks by the Sandinist Army in the border area with Nicaragua. The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry has sent an official protest note to the Nicaraguan Government noting that "Sandinist Army forces attacked Costa Rican territory in the area of La Cruz last 13 January." According to the Foreign Ministry, "This is a new violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Costa Rica." The Foreign Ministry notes in conclusion that it "presents its most energetic protest to the Nicaraguan Government and urges it to put an end to its attacks on Costa Rica's border area."

In separate notes, the Foreign Ministry rejects Nicaragua's charges that "mercenary forces in Costa Rican territory attack Nicaragua from here." The Nicaraguan Government had sent two protest notes on alleged armed attacks from Costa Rica.

EL SALVADOR

REACTION TO DUARTE AUSTERITY MEASURES UNFAVORABLE

PCN: U.S., IMF Forced Measures

PA250445 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1852 GMT 24 Jan 86

[By Pablo Antonio Ayala]

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 24 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The conservative National Conciliation Party [PCN] opposes the economic program decreed by the government and claims that the currency devaluation was imposed by the United States and the IMF.

PCN Secretary General Hugo Carrillo, who is also vice president of the Legislative Assembly, said last night in a television program that the devaluation of the Salvadoran currency was ordered by Washington as part of a plan that also includes Guatemala and Honduras. According to Carrillo, this imposition by the Americans "is a mistake because, instead of putting the country afloat, the devaluation of the currency will sink it even further," as such measures have caused "grave problems" to developed countries before. According to Carrillo, the PCN is convinced that instead of benefitting the people, all the measures adopted by the Christian Democratic government will damage it, especially devaluation of the currency.

Rejected by Opposition Deputies

PA261445 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 24 Jan 86 p 19

[Text] All the deputies of the opposition parties voted against the economic measures plan drafted by the Executive Branch. The plan has been called a packaged swindle and it was approved yesterday by only 33 Christian Democratic Party [PDC] deputies.

The opposition deputies were very clear when stating that the current government is a regime of imposition, does not pay attention to the suggestions of the various sectors, and implements measures that are harmful to the national economy in general. The PDC deputies were criticized for being blind servants of their party and for not serving the people who voted for them. They raise their hands to approve something without thinking of its regrettable implications.

During yesterday's plenary session there were long and heated debates among the deputies; however, despite their many protests, the opposition deputies were not able to change the minds of the 33 PDC deputies.

Once again Rene Fortin Magana, an independent deputy; Ricardo Alvarenga Valdivieso; Armando Calderon Sol; ARENA's [Nationalist Republican Alliance] Major Roberto D'Aubuisson; and PAISA's [Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party] Roberto Escobar Garcia made excellent observations.

Confident in its strength as a majority, the PDC did not even bother to negotiate the PCN's [National Conciliation Party] vote. The PCN shares a seat in the Legislative Assembly's board of directors because of a circumstantial alliance with the ruling party. Hugo Carrillo and Rafael Moran Castaneda were the PCN's speakers. They strongly criticized the government for being a typical dictatorship because it is deaf to the demands and requests made by the people. It only does what the people do not want.

The opposition deputies stressed that the economic package that the government has decided to call "the plan for economic reactivation," will have a disastrous effect on the national economy in general. They also criticized the regime for imposing price controls on products that should be subject to the supply and demand system and for increasing the cost of the national industry and trade. It has increased the price of fuel, diesel, and other oil products when on the international market these prices are lower. The devaluation of the Salvadoran colon will further increase the price to be paid to import raw materials and other products necessary for the national industry.

The Legislative Assembly also approved, as a part of the same economic package, a wage increase for government employees. As of this month, the increase will be 150 colones.

Opposed by Businessmen

PA240146 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran businessmen and industrialists have rejected the "economic stabilization and reactivation program" decreed by the government because they feel it increases the cost of living. The Association of Salvadoran Businessmen and Industrialists, SCIS, and the National Federation of Salvadoran Small Businesses, Fenapes, have stated that the government has not met "the demands of the people, who openly opposed the economic package."

The two organizations have said that the economic measures adopted by the government "are untimely because they will worsen the already deteriorated situation of the national economy and harm the various levels of the population."

The Salvadoran businessmen and industrialists stress that the increase in fuel prices and bus fares "will have a negative effect in the popular sectors, according to analyses made."

Roberto D'Aubuisson, deputy in the Legislative Assembly and a member of the ultra-conservative Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, told ACAN-EFE that some of the measures decreed by Duarte "require an adjustment." According to D'Aubuisson, the increase in the bus fares and fuel prices "is tremendously harmful to the Salvadoran people because the government will not be able to control market basket prices." He stressed: The economic measures decreed by the Christian Democratic government "will reduce the number of jobs available to the people and increase the cost of living. The possibility of those measures helping the leftists is dangerous since the people are capable of doing many things when forced to out of necessity."

GUATEMALA

CEREZO TO DISCUSS C. AMERICAN CONFLICT WITH BUSH

PA250351 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1827 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Jan (DPA) -- Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo today said that he will suggest to U.S. Vice President George Bush possible actions to halt the military escalation in Central America. During a news conference held today, Cerezo expressed his concern for the burning situation in the isthmus and said that Guatemala wants to do its part to re-establish peace in Central America. The Guatemalan president did not disclose the suggestions he would make to the U.S. Vice President. (He will probably make his suggestions on Monday when he and Bush attend the swearing in of the new Honduran president, Jose Azcona, in Tegucigalpa.)

In his first meeting with the Guatemalan and foreign press since he assumed the office of president 10 days ago, Cerezo said he is working on three main areas: the organization of the first civilian regime in Guatemala in the past 15 years; the violence that has affected Guatemala in the past few years; and the housing problem experienced by many Guatemalans.

He also said that he will give news conferences every 2 weeks and that the ministers will hold news conferences every week. Each ministry will be assigned a day for its news conference. The Guatemalan president asked the reporters to forget the traditional form of addressing the president, "Mr President," and simply call him "Friendly President," "Companero Vinicio," or simply "Vinicio."

Cerezo said the recent killings are a provocation against the government by sectors that are still up in arms and insist on a violent solution. However, he said that these cases will be investigated and those responsible will be punished. The Guatemalan president added that these sectors are probably also trying to force a violent reaction from the government: however, this will not happen. The government has the law on its side and will abide by the wishes of the Guatemalan people. He asked the people to give him 6 months, the time necessary to give general security to all the population as well as to the refugees in Mexico, who have expressed their desire to return to Guatemala.

Cerezo also justified the recent tax increases decreed by the former government. He said that these increases will only affect a small wealthy sector and not all the people because not all the people travel, buy perfume, and whiskey, etc. The president added that there is a 50-percent evasion of the value added tax (IVA), to the amount of 60 million quetzales (officially at par with the U.S. dollar), and for this reason the tax system will be improved.

U.S. REPORTEDLY TO GRANT MILITARY, ECONOMIC AID

PA240342 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 23 Jan 86 p 2

[Excerpt] Today, Eduardo Palomo Escobar, Guatemalan ambassador to the United States, said here that the United States plans to give Guatemala $10 million in military assistance. Speaking with a PRENSA LIBRE reporter, the diplomat stated that the U.S. Congress has also approved $80 million in economic assistance to the country for 1986, in addition to the assistance for military activities.

Future Aid Loss Possible

PA242129 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez Amezquita has said that Guatemala faces the risk of losing economic aid offered by the U.S. Government

[Quinonez Amezquita] "The truth is that there are U.S. resolutions and laws approving aid to Guatemala, but we must meet certain requirements. For instance, we have not used $100 million in military aid, part of the credits granted by the World Bank have not been used yet, and part of the credits granted by Eximbank [U.S. Export-Import Bank] have not been used yet either. We also have available unused USAID funds, including $4 million to be invested in coffee production. All these projects have been approved; however, certain requirements must be met, and the government must comply with these conditions in order to receive the funds. On many occasions, the U.S. ambassador has expressed the U.S. Government's willingness to help us.

"However, I want to be clear on this matter. As I have said before, the Guatemalan people must be well-informed in order not to entertain false hopes. A law was approved in the United States last year, the Gramm-Rudman Act, which calls for the U.S. Government to balance its budget before (?1988). Basically, this balance must be achieved without increasing taxes. So there is fear that this balance could be sought by reducing certain expenses, one of which could be foreign aid. Therefore, we must present our projects as soon as possible, in order not to be affected by these new regulations."

Foreign Minister Quinonez Amezquita also commented on the barriers placed in front of the U.S. Embassy in this capital, barriers which have been protested against by various sectors.

[Quinonez Amezquita] "Well, the truth is that I read in the press the ambassador's statement in which he said that removing these barriers could be dangerous, as the security of the embassy and its personnel could be affected. I do not know if he has reached an agreement on this matter with any official of the previous government. I have not discussed this with him."

Concluding, the foreign minister listed the people who will accompany President Cerezo to Honduran President-elect Jose Azcona del Hoyo's inauguration next weekend.

[Quinonez Amezquita] "The official delegation includes the president and his wife, the foreign minister, secretary Sara de Rodriguez, and the presidential general staff that always accompanies the president. It will be a very small delegation."

GOVERNMENT HOLDS FIRST CABINET MEETING

PA240409 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The government has yet to issue a statement concerning the approval to unify the quetzal's exchange rate against the dollar, as has been proposed by the production sector. The current regime's first Cabinet meeting was held yesterday at the presidential palace, but apparently the topic was not discussed. It is expected that the topic will be discussed during the next meeting between the president and his ministers of state. Economy Minister Lizardo Sosa Lopez denied he had issued any statement advocating unification of the foreign exchange rates, as it was recently claimed following some of his statements.

Minister Sosa Lopez revealed some of the topics discussed during the cabinet meeting held yesterday.

[Begin Sosa recording] No, we did not discuss that topic yesterday. We had only the opportunity to learn about each ministry's problems. We held an interesting dialogue on the situation in each ministry. We have discussed the work procedures that must be developed to guarantee a joint government effort. In addition, we have started to analyze the economic crisis prevailing in the country. However, this was discussed at length in a general way; the meeting lasted a long time, but we still do not have a declaration to issue in this regard. I understand that the president of the Republic will address the country to report the results of our current analyses. In the meantime, I cannot give you much information about this. [end recording]

NICARAGUAN CONTRA LEADER MEETS WITH CEREZO

PA231903 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 22 Jan 86 p 4

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, currently struggling against the Nicaraguan Sandinist regime is satisfied with the position assumed by the new Guatemalan Government, which favors a political solution for the region's problems, according to Jose Davila, who is ARDE's political coordinator.

During a visit to PRENSA LIBRE's installations, Davila said he met yesterday with President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, who expressed his position recognizing the need to have real democracies in the Central American countries. He added: I had previously met with President of the Congress Alfonso Cabrera Hidalgo, and I was pleased with his willingness to help in the political effort to prevent a generalized war in the region.

The main objective of my visit to Guatemala is to request the government's moral and political support, as well as to promote a political solution for the Nicaraguan conflict. ARDE and the Southern Opposition Bloc are conducting a difficult struggle, due to a shortage of funds, because the United States only supports the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, he said.

However, the morale of the ARDE fighters is high, and our goal is to rescue the original principles of the Nicaraguan revolution. For this reason we reject being called counterrevolutionaries, because we do not want to destroy the revolution, but to save it from those who betrayed it and delivered it to Cuban-Soviet imperialism, our visitor stressed.

President Vinicio Cerezo assured us that he will support the democratic proposals of the groups who want to find a solution to the conflict and enter into a democratization process.

President Cerezo also said he will insist on the need for a peaceful solution at the next meeting of the presidents, Davila said. I believe that Cerezo Arevalo's policy is sincere and well-intentioned, and we are sure that he is aware of the kind of problems that must be faced, and of the need to promote political solutions, Davila concluded.

CONGRESS ELECTS 4 SUPREME COURT MAGISTRATES

PA240351 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] The National Congress today elected the first four Supreme Court of Justice magistrates. During a vote-count carried out this morning, the following magistrates were elected: Dr Edmundo Vasquez Martinez, former rector of the San Carlos University; Alfonso Branas Castellanos; Mario Pellecer Molina; and Marco Tulio Molina Abril. Molina Abril is well remembered because in 1984 he presented a writ of protection against former Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores following the presentation of a tax reform; however, the appeal was rejected.

The four magistrates' candidacies were proposed by Christian Democratic Party members, and they won by an overwhelming majority against two other candidates, including Minister Hugo Pelles Robles and Oscar Barrios Castillo, who were proposed by the Democratic Institutional Party and Union of the National Center, respectively. The vote count was 90-2 and, following the election and official announcement of the members, National Congress President Alfonso Cabrera officially declared the election of the four professionals, who were proposed by their congress members.

REBEL LEADER DECLARES OPPOSITION TO CEREZO

PA260141 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1917 GMT 25 Jan 86

[By Wilfredo Chacon S.]

[Text] San Jose, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Rolando Moran, commander in chief of the Guatemalan Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP), has said that Vinicio Cerezo's government plan does not fit the Guatemalan situation. The guerrilla commander warned in his statement that the new Guatemalan regime has become -- voluntarily or involuntarily, aware or unaware -- "the protagonist of the counterinsurgent maneuver."

In the document, the text of which was sent to ACAN-EFE in a telegram on the EGP's 14th anniversary, the rebel leader stated that "the Christian Democratic reforms are unfeasible under the circumstances of an economy dependent on strong precapitalist vestiges and being located in the area most threatened by the Reagan administration."

According to Rolando Moran, the economically powerful sectors of Guatemala and the U.S. Administration "know and fear" that any democratic opening, small as it may be, could be "the channel for the guerrilla movement and the popular sectors to hasten a revolutionary outcome."

Moran also said that if President Vinicio Cerezo and the Guatemalan Christian Democracy (DCG) -- "in a sudden spurt of nationalism," of commitments to the people, and with political integrity -- should decide to overcome "the boundaries the other forces are imposing and the commitments with which they are being pressured," then they would be opening an unprecedented historic period and drawing away from the counterinsurgent maneuver.

However, according to the political calculations of the "EGP," the commander in chief "rejects this possibility" and underscores that the new president and his government, "regardless of their intentions and wishes," will have to give in to pressures "in exchange for a chance to govern."

Moran foresees that the Guatemalan Army high command and the North American government will soon "try to hasten the beginning of the counterinsurgency campaign."

The revolutionaries, Moran added, "are convinced that Cerezo and the DCG will not even have a chance to carry out their government plan, much less satisfy the demands of the Guatemalan people," and this is why, "we find ourselves with a new government but not with a new power."

If, on the other hand, Cerezo decides to "confront the conspiracy, the private initiative, the Army, and the Reagan administration," he would have to, according to Moran, call on the forces of the people -- that is, "the democratic, patriotic forces, and the forces of the revolution."

The rebel commander in chief stressed that at this moment, the Guatemalan guerrillas represent "a solidly united, mature, and trained revolutionary movement" formed by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG), an organization that includes the EGP, the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR), and the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms (ORPA).

HONDURAS

AZCONA ANNOUNCES NEW CABINET MINISTERS

PA260212 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0145 GMT 26 Jan 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran President-elect Jose Azcona del Hoyo announced tonight the cabinet that will accompany him when he takes office on Monday, 27 January.

The new secretaries of state with the rank of minister are as follows:

Minister of the Presidency	Celeo Arias Moncada
Labor and Social Welfare	Adalberto Discua Rodriguez
Public Health and Social Aid	Ruben Antonio Villeda Bermudez
Defense and Public Security	Luis Alonso Cardona Macias
Culture and Tourism	Arturo Rendon Pineda
Communications, Public Works, and Transportation	Juan Fernando Lopez
Foreign Affairs	Carlos Lopez Contreras
Natural Resources	Rodrigo Castillo
Economy and Commerce	Reginaldo Panting Penalba
Finance and Public Credit	Jose Efrain bu Giron
Government and Justice	Raul Elvir Colindres
Public Education	Elisa Estela Valle de Martines Pavetti
Higher Council of Economic Planning	Francisco Figueroa Zuniga
National Agrarian Institute	Mario Espinal Zelaya

TEXT Still pending appointment are the president of the Central Bank of Honduras and the manager of the National Enterprise of Electric Energy, in addition to the press secretary of the Presidency. Those appointed will take office immediately after the constitutional president is sworn in.

Jose Azcona will take office on 27 January and will begin to administer the oaths on 28 January.

Of those appointed, Labor Secretary Adalberto Discua Rodiguez and the foreign affairs secretary are Nationalists, the traditional party of opposition to the Liberal Party to which Azcona Hoyo belongs. The defense minister is a military officer, was appointed at the suggestion of the Armed Forces, and has the rank of colonel.

FOREIGN DELEGATIONS ARRIVE FOR AZCONA INAUGURAL

Cerezo, Others Welcomed

PA262140 [Editorial Report] Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish at 1740 GMT on 26 January is intercepted in progress carrying a live ceremony from the Toncontin International Airport at Tegucigalpa where Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo and the first lady, Mrs Cerezo, have "just arrived" and are being greeted by Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova and members of his Cabinet. After Presidents Cerezo and Suazo Cordova leave the airport for the city, the Cabinet members remain at the airport to welcome the next foreign delegations.

At approximately 1800 GMT, Venezuelan Air Force plane arrives with the delegation presided over by Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi, "several men in uniform," and the well-known singer Jose Luis Rodriguez, also known as "El Puma." The announcers devote much attention to the singer, who has been invited "presumably" to plan a charity concert.

The Radio America announcers briefly interview the Honduran foreign minister, who tells them that "the U.S. vice president will arrive at 1430 at the Palmerola Air Force Base. From there, he will take a helicopter to Toncontin Airport, where he will be received by the presidential-designates."

At approximately 1830 GMT, a Panamanian Air Force plane lands bringing the Panamanian delegation to the inauguration. The delegation is led by Vice President Dr Roderick Esquivel and includes Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Rais, Air Force Commander Col Alberto Purcell, and Luis Arrieta Aleman, chief of protocol. The Honduran Cabinet, presided over by Vice President-designate Celio Arias Moncada and Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, greets the Panamanian delegation. After the Panamanian and Honduran national anthems are played, the Panamanian delegation leaves the airport.

No speeches are broadcast. The live relay ends at 1842 GMT.

Duarte, Febres, Others Greeted

PA262149 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2118 GMT 26 Jan 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran Persident Jose Napoleon Duarte and Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo arrived at midday in Tegucigalpa on an official 48-hour visit. Both Central American presidents will attend the transfer of power ceremony tomorrow between President Roberto Suazo Cordova and President-elect Jose Azcona del Hoyo.

LAST LINE

Honduran Army troops rendered military honors to both Central American president, who reviewed the troops in the company of President Suazo Cordova and General Walter Lopez Reyes, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces. Newsmen did not have access to the presidents, who were quickly taken in armed armored vehicles to the hotels reserved for them and their retinues.

Official sources of the Guatemalan Presidency indicated that in Honduras Cerezo will continue talks with the Central American presidents "to halt the military escalation in the area." Also, Cerezo will speak with his colleagues about the exact date of the summit meeting of presidents of the region, which had initially been set for this coming May in Esquipulas, Guatemala on the Salavadoran and Honduran border.

Sercurity measures were stringent in Tegucigalpa, especially at the airport, which has been tightly patrolled for the past 2 days.

Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero, Ecuadoran Vice President Blasco Penaherrera, Argentine Vice President Victor S. Martinez, and Venezuelan Simon Alberto Consalvi are also in Honduras. The Colombian vice president and vice minister, as well as Belizean Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel, have also arrived in Honduras.

U.S. Vice President George Bush is expected to arrive this afternoon when his aircraft will land at Palmerola Base,Comayagua in the central part of Honduras, from where he will be flown by helicopter to Tegucigalpa.

Foreign Minister Welcomes Bush

PA262328 Paris AFP in Spanish 2153 GMT 26 Jan 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 26 Jan (AFP) -- U.S. Vice President George Bush arrived in Tegucigalpa this afternoon for the 27 January inauguration of Honduran President-elect Jose Azcona del Hoyo. Bush was greeted at Toncontin Airport by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, Deputy Foreign Minister Tomas Arita, and Celeo Arias, designated Presidency secretary.

The ranking U.S. official will meet with outgoing President Roberto Suazo and will hold a press conference tomorrow after meeting at the government house with Azcona del Hoyo. This is the third meeting to be held in the past few days between Azcona del Hoyo and Bush, who met in Guatemala on 14 January and later on 17 January in Washington during a working visit by Azcona. U.S. Ambassador John Ferch was also present at Toncontin Airport.

Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo and Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte also arrived today to attend the inauguration.

ALLEGED SALVADORAN BORDER VIOLATIONS PROTESTED

PA252001 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1831 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government strongly protested today to the Salvadoran Government against a territorial violation by Salvadoran troops and for forced recruitment in an area that is considered Honduran territory. Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica sent a note to his Salvadoran counterpart, Rodolfo Castillo Claramount.

Paz Barnica pointed out that on 14 January the Salvadoran Air Force bombed the area of Los Patios, Marcala Municiplaity, La Paz Department, in the west central area of Honduras.

The note also charges that Salvadoran soldiers on the Conchagua Battalion of the Armed Forces have been transferred to the island of Meanguera, and that the residents of the island are being drafted; the most recent case took place on 15 January.

Meanguera is one of the islands disputed by Honduras and El Salvador in the Gulf of Fonseca, Pacific Ocean.

NEW NATIONAL CONGRESS LEADERSHIP ELECTED

PA260150 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The new leaders of the National Congress were elected yesterday. They are headed by the controversial deputy Carlos Orbin Montoya. He is accompanied by Hector Orlando Gomez Cisneros as first vice president, Jacobo Hernandez Cruz as second vice president, (Roberto Maradiaga) as third vice president, Roberto Ramon Castillo as fourth vice president, Oscar Melara as first secretary, (Teofilo Marcel) as second secretary, Armando Rosales Peralta as first assistant secretary and (Novaldo Irias Navas) as second assistant secretary.

Guillermo Castellanos Enamorado reports the following in today's parliamentary chronicle.

[Begin recording] [Castellanos] Carlos Orbin Montoya was elected president of the new legislature yesterday, on approval of a motion by deputy Nicolas Cruz Torres proposing a list of names of the new congressional officers. At the end of the nominal vote count by roll call, at the request of Christian Democratic deputy, Efrain Diaz Arrivillaga, the directors of the new congress were chosen. In the election, there were 108 votes in favor of the slate proposed by Cruz Torres, no votes against, 23 abstentions, and 3 deputies absent. The new officers were then sworn in.

At the end of yesterday's legislative session, Carlos Orbin Montoya thanked his colleagues for their confidence in him. In a brief speech, he said the following, among other things:

[Montoya] I swear before you, to all those people who tried to hurt me over the last 3 years, that we will not use this rostrum to persecute anyone or to limit the liberties of others. All Hondurans can be reassured. We will not look towards the past except to learn from it. We will work with faith and hope to build a democratic Honduras. To my colleagues of all persuasions, I say, let us join in without prejudice. Let us work for Honduras, because the people will always appreciate it. [end recording]

Suazo Attends Ceremonies

PA260156 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2138 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 25 Jan (DPA) -- The new Honduran National Congress was installed today in a ceremony held in the Legislative Palace in Tegucigalpa and attended by outgoing Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova. The inaugural session of the parliament, which served as the opening of the legislature by the deputies, was very solemn and was attended by the 134 congressmen elected last 24 November when the Hondurans also elected a new president, three vice presidents, and 184 municipal government officials.

The legislature is composed of 67 deputies from the official Liberal Party, 63 from the National Party (the most important of the opposition groups), 2 from the Christian Democratic Party of Honduras, and 2 from the Innovation and Unity Party.

The inaugural session was attended, in addition to Suazo Cordova, by Carlos Manuel Arita, president of the Supreme Court; General Walter Lopez, chief of the Armed Forces; Cabinet members; church authorities; and members of the diplomatic corps accredited in the country.

NICARAGUA

REPORTEDLY DOWN SANDINIST HELICOPTER

PA250227 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0130 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Today there were new clashes between the Sandinist People's Army and Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. According to reports from the border between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, the counterrevolutionaries downed a Sandinist helicopter. So far, the Managua government has not issued a communique on the matter.

DELEGATION TO SEEK AID FROM SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

PA260442 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Foreign Cooperation Minister and Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz left today for the socialist countries heading a government delegation.

[Begin Ruiz recording] We are going to attend intergovernmental joint commission meetings with Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Bulgaria. The government mission seeks economic, trade, and technical assistance on an annual basis. [end recording]

The delegation includes Jaime Wheelock, minister of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform and Commander of the Revolution, and the ambassadors to Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and Poland.

'SUSPICIOUS' COSTA RICAN BOAT SEIZED OFF COAST

PA261831 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Jan 86

[Text] Managua, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- A launch, presumably from Costa Rica, sailing in Nicaraguan waters with three persons aboard, was captured on 21 January, according to a Defense Ministry report today. The crew, identified as the brothers Abelino, Manuel, and Francisco Avendana, told the authorities they are Costa Ricans, although they were born in the Nicaraguan port of San Juan del Sur.

The launch, identified as "Costa Rica 05", was navigating at 0610 (1205 GMT) last 21 January, 960 meters from the Nicaraguan coast, when it was intercepted by the Coast Guard. The Nicaraguan authorities consider the launch's activity off the Nicaraguan coast "suspicious," therefore the crew is being held for questioning. The Avendana brothers said they were fishing in front of El Naranjo, in Salinas Bay.

OBANDO Y BRAVO ACCUSES REGIME OF PERSECUTION

PA230330 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 22 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] New York -- Yesterday at a press conference, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo accused the Sandinist government of religious persecution, and he made violent political attacks against the FSLN. Obando revealed the contents of two internal letters pertaining to the talks that the government has maintained with the Catholic hierarchy, which contain political arguments that coincide with those used by the Reagan administration to attack Nicaragua. The cardinal lied about Nicaragua when he said that there is religious persecution in that country, UN delegates said. The prelate met at the United Nations with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Perez de Cuellar virtually rejected the Nicaraguan cardinal's request that he intervene to improve state-church relations. A spokesman for the secretary general said that Perez de Cuellar very kindly explained to the cardinal that his range of action is limited to the mandate he received from the Security Council in 1983, which only asks him to report on the Contadora Group's peace efforts. Nicaraguan Government sources reported that since the last meeting between the Episcopal Conference commission and the state commission last October, the government has been asking the Episcopal commission to establish the date for a future meeting. It was also reported that Cardinal Obando y Bravo has not answered two letters that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega sent to the Episcopal Conference demanding that it set the date for another meeting.

Cardinal Siding With U.S.

PA230333 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] New York -- Yesterday at a press conference, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo accused the Sandinist government of religious persecution, and he made violent political attacks against the FSLN. Obando revealed the contents of two internal letters pertaining to the talks that the government has maintained with the Catholic hierarchy, which contain political arguments that coincide with those used by the

[Text] Nicaraguan Socialist Party member Luis Sanchez today condemned the statements made by Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo in New York. Sanchez said it is sad that the cardinal has placed his hope in foreign and interventionist factors rather than in a patriotic stance of national interest. Cardinal Obando y Bravo, who is in the United States, sent a letter yesterday to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar accusing the Nicaraguan Government of persecuting the church. He also said that the only solution for the Nicaraguan conflict is a dialogue with the counterrevolutionaries. Perez de Cuellar even deemed church-state relations in Nicaragua as inappropriate.

In addition, Harry Shlaudemann, U.S. roving ambassador for Central America, has said in Costa Rica that his government demands negotiations between the Nicaraguan Government and the counterrevolutionaries as a prerequisite for a bilateral dialogue with Nicaragua. In the next few days, the U.S. Congress will discuss the Reagan-proposed allocation of $100 million [as heard] for the counterrevolutionaries. These are the statements by Sanchez:

[Begin recording] We feel the U.S. Government's stance regarding the Central American problem and its policy regarding Nicaragua have not changed. In other words, the United States persists in its policy of aggression. President Reagan has been pressuring the U.S. Congress with his demands for a bigger allotment -- for as much as $100 million -- for the counterrevolutionary forces. The U.S. stance has remained intransigent despite public international opinion and contrary to international law as well. The U.S. Government seeks to violently topple the Nicaraguan revolutionary state. Of course, this weakens all the efforts made for peace, particularly those recently of the Contadora and Support Groups in Caraballeda, Venezuela, and the recommendations made in Guatemala during the inauguration of President Vinicio Cerezo.

What really counts here, however, is that the United States is revealing itself before Latin American governments and peoples as an intransigent force and a fundamental factor of destabilization in Central America.

In addition, I feel that the denunciation, so to speak, made by Cardinal Obando y Bravo at the United Nations, in New York does not represent a sincere effort to reach an agreement between that state and the official church. We have advocated that the government and the Catholic Church's hierarchy responsibly, seriously, and patriotically discuss problems of common interest. This would serve as the basis for accords.

Nevertheless, an international campaign that clearly ties to pressure the Nicaraguan Government and even discredit this government's stance regrettably makes more difficult a sensible agreement and even makes Cardinal Obando y Bravo appear as someone who puts more hope in foreign interventionist factors than in a patriotic stance of genuine national interest. [end recording]

'Opposition' Criticizes Cardinal

PA232221 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Opposition party leaders have spoken out against the action of Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, who requested of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that the United Nations intervene in Nicaragua in order to establish a dialogue with counter-revolutionary groups.

Domingo Sanchez Salgado, member of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, stated that he is completely opposed to Obando y Bravo's position.

[Begin Sanchez recording in progress]...totally condemnable. I believe that it goes against the spirit, the criteria, and the desires of the Nicaraguan Catholics, who see Msgr Obando y Bravo as their leader. We condemn it. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Rodolfo Robelo Herrera, member of the Independent Liberal Party, has said that the high Catholic Church prelate's request does not reflect the wishes of Nicaraguans, who wnat a solution to the conflict through negotiation and dialogue -- but with the civic forces that are within the country, rather than the armed groups attacking the revolution.

[Regin Robelo recording] The Independent Liberal Party realizes -- and I believe I am interpreting its position correctly -- that not only is dialogue possible, but it should be carried out; however, it should be carried out with the political and civic organizations that exist in Nicaragua, that are operating internally, and that are willing to seek a peaceful and negotiated solution to this situation of crisis the country is experiencing. I share that desire of the Independent Liberal Party. I share the feeling that one can meet and talk with the political organizations that are playing a determining role in the existing life of our country through their representatives in the National Assembly, as well as the political parties that have no representatives in the Assembly because they did not participate in the elections for reasons that in my judgement are honest.

I am referring specifically and precisely to those civic and political organizations that exist inside Nicaragua. [end recording]

Government Issues Communique

PA230427 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Communique No 4 issued by the Directorate of Information and Press of the Presidency of the Republic in Managua on 22 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] 1. During his current visit to the United States, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo has launched a campaign of criticism and slander against the Nicaraguan Government, accusing it of persecuting the church.

2. The visit by the cardinal to the United States and the campaign of criticisms he has launched is taking place precisely at a time when the Reagan administration has launched a new campaign against our country in order to obtain funds from the U.S. Congress to provide military assistance to the counterrevolutionaries.

Cardinal Obando Y Bravo who has said nothing to date with regard to the mercenary aggression that has already left a toll of 11,000 victims, including women, elderly people, and children, has gone to accuse us before our aggressors, thereby joining an activity that is unworthy of his high investiture and priestly mission.

3. The lawful steps the government has found itself forced to take against Radio Catolica and Coprosa [Archdiocesan Social Promotion Commission] are the exclusive responsibility of the leaders of the Managua archdiocese for having repeatedly refused to abide by our country's laws.

4. We are attaching to this communique the appeals for dialogue which the government has made through various notes sent to Msgr Bosco Vivas Robelo, secretary of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference.

Issued in Managua on 22 January 1986

25 years later, all weapons against the aggression.

Attachment: Letter written on 15 January to Msgr Bosco Vivas Robelo:

Dear Monsignor:

Since 28 October 1985, when we held the last meeting of the Government-Church Commission [Comision Gobierno-Iglesia], our delegation has insisted verbally and in writing before you and the nuncio on the need to set a date for the next meeting of the commission, having received no response to date. At the beginning of this new year, we repeat our request to hold the next meeting of the Government-Church Commission soon.

With reference to the request that the cardinal has made through you to the president of the Republic, I would appreciate it if you would inform us if this request for a meeting involves a resumption of the meetings of the Dialogue Commission. If so, we would like to know the points of the agenda to be discussed at such a meeting.

Signed: Rene Nunez Tellez, Presidency Minister

Attachment: Letter of 10 January 1986 to Msgr Vivas Robelo:

Dear Msgr Vivas Robelo:

Bearing in mind that the request for a meeting you have aubmitted was unanimously approved by the bishops of the Episcopal Conference and considering that the points on the proposed agenda concern the various dioceses, we suggest that a meeting be held between the companero president of the Republic of Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference in mid-February 1986.

During this meeting, the cardinal may talk separately with the companero president if he so wishes. We also propose that the Government-Church dialogue Commission meet within the next few days for the exclusive purpose of making arrangements for the meeting referred to above.

Best regards,

[Signed] Rene Nunez Tellez, Presidency Minister

Cardinal Complains to OAS

PA241956 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Washington -- After making accusations against the Nicaraguan Government in front of its imperialist aggressors, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo submitted yesterday to the OAS secretary general a document listing a barrage of charges the U.S. Government has been championing in its attempt to hurt Nicaragua.

In the document Obando y Bravo did not say a single word about the more than 11,000 victims of the U.S.-financed mercenary aggression, an international dispatch reports. Meanwhile, he claimed -- as Reagan's envoy Harry Shlaudeman had before in Central America, Bogota, and Caracas -- that the Sandinist regime is involved in religious persecution. The document presented to OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares indicated that the literacy campaign conducted by the government was designed foremost to indocrinate and organize the people and only last to teach them how to read and write. He made no mention of the counterrevolutionary political activities of the foreign priests deported from Nicaragua or the politically-oriented publication that the priest Bismarck Carballo intended to release to criticize the government. On the other hand, he did warn that churchmen are being persecuted in Nicaragua.

OAS Envoy Replies

PA250450 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 24 Jan 86 pp 1, 8

[Text] Edgar Parrales, Nicaraguan ambassador to the OAS, has told EL NUEVO DIARIO that Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo's statements in the United States "strategically coincide" with those of the Reagan administration.

Obando y Bravo met yesterday with OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares, to whom he delivered a letter asking for Baena Soares' intervention in Central American affairs and reporting on alleged outrages by the Sandinist government against the church.

No Persecution

During a conversation with this newspaper over the telephone from Washington, Parrales said categorically that there cannot be religious persecution in Nicaragua because "many revolutionaries are believers and they also are part of the church."

Parrales said: "Christians cannot persecute themselves." He took the opportunity to refute an AP report. The news agency manipulated some of Parrales' statements.

He Refutes AP

Yesterday, AP quoted Parrales as saying: "We are the church, the people are the religion." This was denied by the Nicaraguan churchman. "I did say that the church is formed not only by the hierarchy but by all the believers."

Parrales added that AP also lied when it quoted him as saying: "Obando y Bravo is the Antichrist and a pharisee." Parrales said: "I did not utter either of those two words. I said that the cardinal should concern himself with preventing the priests' rights from being violated at the archdiocese. The hierarchy hampers their freedom of expression."

In a well orchestrated campaign that could only seek to establish the proper conditions for a military invasion against Nicaragua, Obando y Bravo has said in the United States again and again that religious people are persectued in Nicaragua, while he also speaks of a "constructive dialogue with the government." All this is happening at a time when the U.S. President has asked the U.S. Congress to authorize an additional $100 million for the Somozist mercenaries. In addition, Obando y Bravo does not mention that the government has proposed a dialogue with the Episcopal Conference three times during the past few days.

Parrales stressed that the Managua archbishop should rather concern himself over the rights of his priests, frequently trampled upon by the church. Two years ago, and after many efforts, Obando y Bravo succeeded in getting the Vatican to approve the elimination of the National Clergy Association, thus violating the priests' right to association.

Father Parrales also pointed out: "The truth is that those priests who don't go along with the archbishop's ideas have a hard time."

The Past

Parrales recalled that, during the many times he was in prison during the revolution, Obando y Bravo never demonstrated to have him released, as he did recently when Father Amado Pena involved himself in counterrevolutionary activities. One of the times that Parrales was in prison, Obando y Bravo -- to top it off - remove him from the pertpetuo Socorro parish church.

The limit was reached when Somozist guardsmen captured Father Francisco Mejia and split open his head and Obando y Bravo, today cardinal, left for Chonta Department so as not to have to intercede for him. He left all the problems in the hands of the elderly assistant he had at the time. In those hard times during the Somozist regime when priests were put in prison and were daily outraged, Obando y Bravo never said that the church was persecuted.

In his tour through the United States, Cardinal Obando y Bravo is accompanied by officials of the Washington nuncio office and civilians related to the U.S. Government circles.

Obando y Bravo's campaign of slander against the Sandinist revolution also coincides with one started yesterday by the Vatican official newspaper L'OBSERVATORE ROMANO, which repeated the cardinal's accusations.

U.S. CATHOLIC ORDER LINKED WITH OBANDO, CIA

PA240126 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 Jan 86 p 3

[Editorial by Jorge Lobo: "The Amazing Grace, Obando, and the Contras"]

[Excerpts] The U.S. wing of the Order of Knights has approximately 1,000 members, including 300 "ladies". They are the cream of U.S. Catholicism and meeting point of the domineering U.S. elite with the Vatican. The order's "general headquarters" is installed in the notorious mixed monopoly "W.R. Grace and Company."

Grace's name appears every time a revolutionary government is about to be destablized by the United States. Lately there have been notable ties between Grace Co. representatives and the Managua archepiscopal curia, which is hostile to the Nicaraguan Government. As the U.S. newspapers THE NEW YORK TIMES and NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER have reported, Managua Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo met with Grace representatives in New York when he returned from Rome where Pope John Paul II designated him as cardinal. Obando y Bravo allegedly requested financial support for his publications department (Coprosa) [Archdiocesan Social Promotion Commission]. According to the sources mentioned, he received positive answers and Coprosa, an organization from which has emerged more than one pamphlet critical of the government, will receive almost $1 billion through the Agency for International Development.

While Grace's people take care of Obando y Bravo and others similar to him, the other Knights of Malta deal directly with the Contras. According to their own statements, the Knight's Americares foundation has so far donated more than $680,000 to the Miskitos who are fighting from Honduras against Nicargaua. In Honduras, the donations are administered by Guatemalan coffee producer Alejos, who lent his ranch to the CIA in 1960 so that thousands of exiled Cubans could be militarily trained for the invasion of Cuba.

Persecution of Progressive Priests

It is evident that the U.S. branch of the Knights has been the most important link between the CIA and the Vatican, so it cannot come as a surprise that ever since the CIA was founded all of its directors have been members of the Order of Malta.

CHURCH DENIES REPORTED ROLE IN 'SCORPION' PLOT

PA250343 Paris AFP in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Managua, 24 Jan (AFP) -- Today the Nicaraguan Catholic Church labeled as "slander" reports of involvement by Father Osvaldo Mondragon, director of the minor seminary, in the military plans of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. Msgr Bismarck Carballo, spokesman of the Managua Archbishopric Curia, noted that the Sandinist government "wants to destroy pastoral work" and rejected Friday's reports by the Directorate of State Security accusing Mondragon of involvement in a "terrorist" plan of the rebel Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN).

Carballo told AFP that beginning with the government's break-in at the offices of the Archdiocesan Social Promotion Commission (Coprosa) in November and the subsequent closing for an indefinite period of Radio Catolica on 1 January, "we have become aware of how far the government might go to discredit the church's pastoral work."

"We do not know if the case involving Father Mondragon is going to remain a mere accusation to mar the Church's image before the public or whether the government will continue this policy of discrediting [the Church] and go so far as to jail priests, which would be a serious mistake," Carballo added.

The prelate downplayed the importance of statements by the Sandinist government that Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo had traveled to the United States this week to "slander" the revolution, which Obando y Bravo had accused of persecuting the church. Carballo stated: "The cardinal merely noted the actions undertaken by the government against the church in the past 4 years."

Priest Interrogated

PA260347 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0307 GMT 26 Jan 86

[Text] Managua, 25 Jan 9EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference held an urgent meeting today to issue a statement regarding a summons from Sandinist authorities to priest Oswaldo Mondragon. The Catholic clergyman, who is director of the lower seminary of Managua and parish priest of the "El Calvario" Church, was summoned today to the "Casa 50," one of the installations of the state security in this capital.

Security authorities have not yet given the press any explanation for Mondragon's summons. He allegedly participated in an anti-Sandinist conspiracy denounced yesterday by Captain Andres Garcia, deputy chief of government security. The alleged link of Father Mondragon to the "Scorpion" destabilization plan was mentioned by Guillermo Aguilera, charged with being chief of the "special front for internal sabotage."

Intelligence authorities said that the "Scorpion" plan was thwarted by security organizations last December after four accomplices were captured.

Ecclesiastical sources confirmed to EFE that, after having been interrogated, Father Mondragon was taken back to the seminary, on the outskirts of Managua, by Sandinist authorities.

The country's Catholic bishops are meeting to evaluate the situation and issue an official declaration, which will be released in the next few hours.

MALMIERCA, ZIMBABWE'S MANGWENDE HOLD TALKS

FL241731 Bridgetown CANA in English 1658 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Harare, Jan 24, CANA-REUTER -- Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who was on an official visit to Lesotho when the civilian government was toppled in a coup on Monday, arrived in Zimbabwe today aboard a Zimbabwean Air Force plane. Malmierca was accompanied by his wife and five other senior Cuban Government officials. He had been due to arrive here two days ago but was delayed by the closure of the international airport at Maseru following the coup.

Meeting his Zimbabwean counterpart, Witness Mangwende, soon after arrival, Malmierca thanked Zimbabwe for having sent the transport aircraft to collect him and his party. Lesotho is surrounded by South Africa and the plane must have received authorisation to overfly South African territory to collect the Cuban party, diplomats here said.

Speaking after their meeting, Mangwende said Zimbabwe planned to open an embassy in Cuba soon. At present, Zimbabwe's interests in Cuba are handled by its mission in Canada. Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, who takes over leadership of the Non-Aligned Movement later this year, made this first visit to Cuba late last year.

Malmierca is scheduled to be in Zimbabwe for four days.

Malmierca Meets With Banana

FL242208 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1902 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Canaan Banana, president of Zimbabwe, has received Cuban Minister of Foreign Relations Isidoro Malmierca, who is in Harare on an official visit. During the visit the Zimbabwean president expressed his concern about the situation in Lesotho, which the Cuban foreign minister had left to arrive in Harare this morning. Malmierca arrived in Lesotho on 17 January for an official visit. On 20 January a coup d'etat, apparently carried out with South African participation, overthrew the government of Leabua Joanthan in Maseru.

The Zimbabwean chief of state and Malmierca also discussed the coming summit meeting of the Nonaligned Movement. Banana stressed the role of Cuba and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in the Nonaligned Movement, which contributes to the strengthening and cohesion of the movement.

DELEGATION ATTENDS SIERRA LEONE INAUGURATION

FL251908 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Ernesto Melendez, Cuban minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, has arrived in the capital of Sierra Leone to attend the inauguration of Major General Joseph Saidu Momoh. The Cuban delegation was met at the Freetown airport by Augustine Stevens, state minister for foreign affairs. Also attending the inauguration are delegations from the USSR, Algeria, the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, and others.

SUGAR MILL WORKERS BEGIN STRIKE TO PROTEST DEATH

FL241620 Bridgetown CANA in English 1608 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, Jan 24, CANA-REUTER -- Workers in the Dominican Republic's 12 state-owned sugar mills began an indefinite strike today to test [as received] against the death of a colleague during a wage protest, union spokesman said. All mining of the 1985-86 harvest, which began two weeks ago, has stopped, they said.

The workers, many from neighbouring Haiti, say their colleague died when police moved in to break up the wage protest. It was not known when the incident occurred. The Dominican Republic is the United States' chief Latin American sugar supplier, providing about 400,000 tonnes a year.

Further Report

PA241734 Paris AFP in Spanish 1636 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 24 Jan (AFP) -- One worker was killed and 40 people, including 10 policemen, have been wounded in violent demonstrations by Dominican sugar workers in the past 24 hours. The demonstrations are the result of a crisis in the Dominican sugar industry, which is experiencing the worst prices in the last 50 years and the decrease of the U.S. preferential quota.

The most violent incidents took place yesterday in the Catarey sugar mill in Villa Altagracia (40 km north of Santo Domingo) where, according to many eyewitnesses, worker Mario Polanco was shot to death by a policeman. The workers of the Catarey mill, 1 of the 12 sugar mills administered by the State Sugar Council (CEA), were holding a meeting as part of the general mobilization ordered by the Federation of Sugar Workers to demand the payment of a bonus equivalent to 1 month's wages. Policemen acted to disperse the workers, and the clashes ensued.

CEA Executive Director Victor Manuel Baez recently announced that as a result of low international sugar prices, the reduction of almost 200,000 tons of the U.S. preferential quota, and the constant increase of production costs, the corporation lost 100 million pesos ($33 million) in 1985. As a result of that financial situation, the authorities decided to pay a bonus equivalent to only 10 days of work. This bonus would be given only to temporary workers (approximately 25,000) and not to the 60,000 CEA workers. According to the official view, the temporary workers are the ones who need the bonus the most.

The unions affiliated with the Federation of Sugar Workers rejected the government decision, calling it unjust and divisionist, and they began their plans to fight it. Half of the 12 sugar mills announced they would halt activities today to protest the death of Polanco, who will be buried today in Villa Altagracia.

The National Police have reported the creation of a commission to investigate the circumstances in which Polanco was killed and 10 policeman injured by rock throwing during yesterday's violence.

Tear Gas Used at Funeral

FL242146 Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] The situation in Villa Altagracia remains tense today, while confrontations between sugar workers and police have continued since early this morning.

Early this morning, when a Christian burial was underway for worker Mario Polanco, 24, who was killed yesterday during street demonstrations, agents threw a large quantity of tear gas into the multitude at the cemetery. According to Clarin Correspondent in Villa Altagracia Antonio de la Cruz Figueroa, hundreds of people have filled the streets, condemning the attitude of the police agents, who are practically occupying the municipality.

Catarey sugar mill workers are demanding that the government pay 30 days compensation (bonificacion) corresponding to the last sugar harvest. The sugar mill workers have declared an indefinite strike, and a large portion of the state sugar mills are paralyzed. There has been no announcement yet of any measures to keep the situation from worsening.

Police, Students Clash

FL251738 Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Violence occupied yesterday in San Francisco de Macoris when police and students confronted each other with rocks and tear gas. The protests were led by students of the (Hercilia Petin) club to condemn the death of sugar worker Mario Rosa Polanco, killed by police on 23 January in Villa Altagracia. According to reports, police had immediately surrounded the education center and fired tear gas into the building. After talks between a commission of professors and Colonel Percy Rafael Caminero Calderon, the agents were withdrawn from the area.

Workers Demand Compensation

FL242350 [Editorial Report] Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish at 1600 GMT on 24 January carries a series of reports on continuing tension between sugar workers and police. According to a Clarin correspondent, police threw a large quantity of tear gas at a crowd gathered at a cemetery for the burial of sugar worker Mario Polanco, who was killed yesterday during street demonstrations. The correspondent reporter: "Hundreds of people have filled the streets, condemning the attitude of the police agents, who are practically occupying the municipality."

The announcer states that Catarey sugar mill workers in Villa Altagracia staged demonstrations yesterday demanding that the government pay 30 days' compensation from the last sugar harvest. The workers have declared an indefinite strike, and "a large number of the state sugar mills are paralyzed."

The same broadcast also states that the General Central Organization of Workers, CGT, blames the government for the deterioration of the political situation. According to the announcer, CGT Secretary General Julio de Pena Valdez warned: "If the authorities do not attend to the demands of the workers of the State Sugar Council, CEA, the protests could extend into the cities. In areas of Santo Domingo and other cities, strikes could result in support for the workers' demands for compensation." It was reported that De Pena Valdez added that the CGT supports the workers' struggle, "which resulted in the death of 1 worker, the imprisonment of more than 500 workers, and the militarization of the sugar mills." The trade union leader denies that the protests are a destabilizing factor, according to the announcer.

The announcer then notes that CEA director Victor Manuel Valles says the strike "is not a trade union movement but instead is politically motivated, but he would not name the political sectors behind the strike.

In the same broadcast Radio Clarin reports that "all CEA sugar mills and divisions have been militarized to prevent new incidents," without further expanding on the extent of militarization. The announcer reports that in addition to Polanco's death yesterday, several people were injured and dozens were arrested. The announcer says: "Today eight of the CEA sugar mills are paralyzed, and it is feared that the other four will suspend work within the next few hours due to the presence of police at the installations." The announcer adds that the strike coordinator has demanded the sugar mills be "demilitarized."

A report during the same broadcast indicates that the Boca Chica sugar mill "paralyzed" work today, with workers demanding compensation and protesting Polanco's death. According to the announcer, the workers indicate that the strike came about after a meeting with President Salvador Jorge Blanco, who promised to solve the sugar workers problems. "The president's response did not satisfy the demands, " says the announcer, who notes the strikes are expected to spread to other sugar mills.

The broadcast then includes a recording of an unidentified speaker reading a statement while military music is played in the background. The speaker says: "President Jorge Blanco has heard and satisfied the demands of the sugar workers' trade unions."

The announcer then reports that the CEA has begun to distribute benefits to workers: "Up to the moment, more than 1 million pesos have been distributed among workers." The announcer says: The CEA states that more than 2 million pesos have been distributed to sugar workers and has offered 10 days of compensation. "Nevertheless, the sugar workers refuse to accept 10 days' compensation and demand payment for 30 days," the announcer says.

PRESIDENCY SECRETARY DE CAMPS RESIGNS

PA241854 Paris AFP in Spanish 1830 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 24 Jan (AFP) -- Hatuey de Camps, the Dominican secretary of state of the Presidency, generally regarded by observers as a sort of prime minister of President Salvador Jorge Blanco's cabinet, tendered his irrevocable resignation from his post, it was announced officially today.

The resignation is contained in a letter which De Camps addressed to the president, and observers immediately linked it with the crisis that has been affecting the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) for 2 months.

Speculation Surrounds Decision

FL251852 Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] The surprise resignation of Presidency Secretary Hatuey de Camps has led to much speculation. In national political circles the resignation was received with surprise, since De Camps was considered one of the most influential officials in government and had President Salvador Jorge Blanco's absolute confidence.

Analysts stress that the resignation came shortly after De Camps said there was no possibility whatsoever of an attempt to reelect Jorge Blanco, even though others maintain the contrary. In addition, it is reported that the young politican met yesterday for 45 minutes with the chief of state, and after that meeting he presented his resignation, saying it is irrevocable.

The resignation of the presidency secretary came as a surprise even to his closest colleagues. Political observers seem convinced that the whole story has not been revealed and that other reasons may be behind the resignation.

PRD RESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS REACH AGREEMENTS

PA260351 Paris AFP in Spanish 1712 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 25 Jan (AFP) -- The presidential hopefuls of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD, Social Democrat), Jacobo Majluta and Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, met for 4 hours last night and reached a number of agreements.

Close to midnight the only eyewitnesses at the meeting, leaders Jose Rafael Molina Urena and Leopoldo Espaillat Nanita, released a document signed by the four which outlines a number of agreements related to the internal rules of the party, the election of authorities at all levels, and the election of candidates for senator, deputy, mayor, and aldermen.

The document does not, however, make any mention of the main problem that is keeping the party on the verge of a division: the definition of the presidential candidacy, which has been up in the air since last November, when a shootout in the vote counting center for the direct election of all the candidates suspended the vote count.

The new Majluta-Pena Gomez summit was shrouded in total secrecy, and not even the site of the meeting was disclosed. The document signed indicates that contracts will be held in coming days to continue to try to discuss other topics pending solution.

According to observers, it is quite probable that the PRD will opt for the formula used by Uruguay or the one recently adopted in the Honduran elections, whereby both Majluta and Pena Gomez will appear on the ticket as candidates of the PRD, and the people will decide between the two. To adopt this formula it will be necessary to modify the Dominican electoral law through the Congress, where the PRD has an absolute majority in both houses.

CARICOM SECRETARY GENERAL REVIEWS PERFORMANCE

FL221918 Bridgetown CANA in English 1907 GMT 22 Jan 86

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 22, CANA -- Secretary General of the Caribbean Community and Common Market Roderick Rainford has listed a major increase in the value of intra-regional trade and the adjustment of the area's economic structures among the urgent needs of the English-speaking grouping.

He described economic structural adjustment as unavoidable, and the need for increasing intra-regional trade levels as urgent and pressing.

He made the comments during a weekend news conference at which he reviewed the performance of a community he said had had successes and setbacks in 1985.

Looking at structural adjustment, he said: It is something that is an imperative, and what the region individually and collectively has to do at the present time and in the forthcoming years is to find the right strategy and the most viable options for achieving the required structural adjustment.

The secretary general said there had been a lot of negative impact on Caricom economies, coupled with internal pressure on the states. Together, these make it inescapable that the region should go through the necessary process of structural adjustment, Rainford asserted.

When Caricom leaders met in the Bahamas in 1984, they noted that structural adjustment was a critical issue the region needed to address. They were able to arrive at a joint understanding on the principles, policies and strategies which should in general terms inform and guide the efforts in the region, both at the individual and national levels, Rainford commented.

He said the value of intra-regional trade had fallen from 1.6 billion East Caribbean dollars (one EC dollar -- 37 cents U.S.) in 1981 to 1.1 billion EC dollars. Intra-regional trade declined 25 per cent between 1981 and 1984 and 10 per cent in the first nine months of 1985.

The urgent and pressing hold is to climb back to that level, once the decline is arrested, Rainford suggested.

He said intra-regional trade has geen lagging in recent years and indeed has been falling in recent years, but when you put everything into perspective all efforts must be made to arrest the decline in intra-regional trade.

He noted, however, that overall trade with third countries was also down.

...Even the reduced level of intra-regional trade still maintains the same relative share to total trade that was there in 1981, but the absolute level was higher, Rainford told reporters.

The ratio of intra-regional trade to total trade was said to have been higher in 1984 than it was in previous years.

...Intra-regional exports have been performing quite effectively from the pattern of total exports, in such a manner that intra-regional markets are becoming relatively more important to exporters in the region, than extra-regional markets, Rainford said.

There is a situation of all-round contraction, both in terms of total trade as well as in terms of trade levels within the region, and the share that intra-regional trade has has in terms of trade levels within the region has in general terms been maintained, and even increased.

Rainford said the region needed to identify and establish a whole range of industries on a joint basis.

Looking at the community's performance in 1985, he reported: There has been reasonable progress in some areas. There have been setbacks. Some things have not gone at the kind of pace that one would have wished and in many cases for obvious reasons.

He said the outstanding thing about Caricom was that the movement contin s to survive, continues to operate.

He added: When you look around the world and you look at the difficulties and the buffeting that other integration movements have gone through and are going through, I think it is remarkable that in the case of Carcicom, despite the obvious difficulties; despite the obvious internal pressures and external pressures on the movement, it continued to be a solid rock of understanding within the Caribbean and will continue to operate in this manner.

BAHAMAS

PARLIAMENT MEMBER CLEARED OF BRIBERY CHARGES

FL242102 Nassau Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Former Cabinet member and the member of Parliament for Rolleville Mr George Smith has been cleared of bribery charges and the charges against businessman Edward Bannister have been dropped.

The case against Mr Smith collapsed yesterday when the prosecution star witness Edward Ward failed to positively identify Mr Smith as the man he paid $100,000 to get him off the immigration stop list.

GRENADA

REPORTS OF FUNDS FOR FORMER DETAINEES REFUTED

FL241447 Bridgetown CANA in English 1356 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Jan 24, CANA -- The United States has denied it provided any money to the Grenada Government to settle claims made by former detainees of the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), which was ousted in a 1983 coup and subsequent american-led military intervention.

In a press release, the local office of the United States Information Service (USIS) says a story to that effect was seen in a local newspaper and the embassy states categorically that these allegations are not true.

In its January 17 issue, the GRENADA INFORMER reported that ex-detainees planned to stage a demonstration during President Reagan's visit here next month in order to let the President know that we have not received one penny of the 5,000,000 dollars granted by the U.S. Government to be disbursed among them as compensation for lost earnings.

According to informer adding fuel to the ex-detainees raging discontent, moreover, is the current rumour that government has diverted some of the compensation fund, temporarily at least, to other projects.

Setting the record straight, the U.S. Embassy said the United States paid claims for damages by the U.S. Armed Forces in Grenada subsequent to combat activities in October-November 1983 and, in an unusual gesture, made certain ex-gratia payments for combat-related damages.

In all cases, the claims were between the individual claimant and the Government of the United States and, following the settlement of all claims and the payment of claims where warranted, the U.S. Government's claims programmes were terminated some time ago.

LABOR MINISTER ON HUMPHREY'S EXTRADITION DENIAL

FL241728 Bridgetown CANA in English 1710 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Jan 24, CANA -- Labour Minister Dr Francis Alexis says the appeals court rejection of an American request for the extradition of a leftwing trade unionist denies claims from those who make charges of human rights abuses in Grenada following the 1983 U.S.-led invasion.

...The fact that the court reached (that) decision... tells us something about the independence of the judiciary in Grenada and to that extent refutes completely those who say there are no institutions in this country to protect human rights, Alexis said.

The appeals court ruled on Tuesday in a unanimous decision that an American charge of gun-running against trade union leader, Chester Humphrey, did not merit his deportation even though an extradition treaty existed between the two countries.

Charges of human rights abuses were made last month by a liberal Washington research group, the Council on Hemispheric Affairs.

The group claimed civil rights violations in Grenada were fast becoming the worst in the English-speaking Caribbean.

Meanwhile, lawyer Anselm Clouden who as a former senior crown counsel helped lay the early groundwork for the case against Humphrey, said technicalities which led to his release could be removed by a review of outdated laws.

...What this brings out is the desperate need for a complete revision of our laws in that a law reform commission should be appointed with due speed to look into those obsolete statutes that are still on the statute books, he said.

There are a number of statutes that we have to repeal or revise and this can only be done when a law reform commission is set up for that purpose and mandated to do just that, Clouden added.

GOVERNMENT PLANS TO OPERATE MODEL FARMS

FL241350 Bridgetown CANA in English 1328 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Jan 24, CANA -- The Grenada Government says it will shortly begin a campaign to attract persons interesting in managing state-owned estates which are being turned into model farms.

Very shortly there is going to be a notice put out inviting prospective farm managers to apply to the model farm project for management of industrial farms, Agriculture Minister George Brizan told CANA.

Brizan stated that the Organisation of American States (OAS) had provided Grenada with the services of a land use specialist who has helped with surveying and drawing up the government's plans for some of the proposed model farms.

He said that two of the eleven farms surveyed have already been sub-divided.

Brizan spoke of being confident that the model farm concept which is proving successful in St Lucia would resuscitate the agriculture sector, Grenada's chief foreign exchange earner and a major employment source in the rural areas.

He felt that the introduction of model farms would lead to an increase in the number of labourers owning their own plots and would demonstrate the fact that people would work harder on their own land.

The share of agriculture in Grenada's gross domestic product (GDP) fell from 21.9 percent percent in 1981 to an average of 18.5 percent in 1982-84 and was estimated at about 17 percent last year.

OAS Official To Head Project

FL241443 Bridgetown CANA in English 1347 GMT 24 Jan 86

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Jan 24, CANA -- The Guyana-based Caribbean Community (Caricom) secretariat has provided Grenada with the services of a specialist to manage a multi-million dollar agricultural diversification and rehabilitation project here aimed at turning around a decline in the industry.

Agriculture Minister George Brizan says the official, Dr Winston Phillip, who has already arrived to take up the post, is expected to provide the management needed to make the project successful.

Brizan told CANA this project was one of three on which the one-year old Grenada Government would place emphasis during 1986 in an effort to resuscitate the industry, which in recent years has been on the decline due, among other things, to low morale among farmers.

The Washington-based World Bank last year approved a five million U.S. dollar loan to Grenada for the scheme, which seeks to get farmers to diversify the agricultural base from mainly production of cocoa, banana and nutmeg to include fruit cultivation, particularly in orchards, and cut flowers for export.

Brizan said all the preconditions necessary for disbursement of the loan funds had now been satisfied and the basic groundwork completed for bringing the project on stream.

Grenada had already secured the services of an Israeli firm, Agridev, to provide technical help in marketing the fruits.

Agriculture contributed an estimated 17 per cent to Grenada's gross domestic product (GDP) last year, compared with 21.9 percent in 1981.

HAITI

DUVALIER DISSOLVES POLICE, SHUFFLES OFFICERS

PA270138 Paris AFP in Spanish 0042 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 26 Jan (AFP) -- An official communique issued this afternoon announced that the Permanent Investigation Commission of the Dessalines barracks (official name of the Haitian Political Police) has been dissolved by President Jean-Claude Duvalier. He also made important changes within the Haitian Army.

Duvalier ordered the transfer of 11 senior officers to the reserves and replaced the leadership in two "strategic" combat units of the Armed Forces -- the Tactical Battalion of the Dessalines Barracks and the anti-guerrilla corps of the "Leopards" -- as well as those in charge of the Haitian Air Force and Navy.

Since 28 November, President Duvalier has been facing the most serious internal political crisis since his rise to power in 1971. The government has kept schools and universities in the country closed since 8 January.

GOVERNMENT ARRESTS ALLEGED KILLERS OF STUDENTS

PA252332 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2045 GMT 25 Jan 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince (Haiti), 25 Jan (DPA) -- The Haitian Government announced the arrest of three men today who allegedly killed three Haitian students during an anti-government demonstration last November.

The three arrested are Captain Dieudonne Ulysse of the Armed Forces, Ceres Saint Phard, former commander of the VSN [expansion unknown] militia, and his associate Augustin Majeune, alias "Tit Fre."

The three students killed were Jean Robert Cius, Mackenson Michel, and Daniel Ismael.

The accused are being held by the police in the city of Gonaives, where the killings occurred. It was indicated that the Armed Forces captain will be court-martialed.

TRINIDAD-TOBAGO

GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA

FL231720 Bridgetown CANA in English 1502 GMT 23 Jan 86

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Jan 23, CANA -- North Korea and Trinidad and Tobago have established diplomatic relations, the Ministry of External Affairs said last night. The ministry did not say when the agreement was signed, but the North Korean CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY said it was initialled in Jamaica yesterday.

Trinidad and Tobago established diplomatic relations with South Korea last year.